

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 793.—VOL. XXVIII.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1856.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

THE SUPPLEMENTARY Sittings OF THE CONFERENCE.

For nearly forty years it was a matter of reproach against British statesmen and the British people that they habitually and systematically disregarded foreign politics. The revolutions and insurrections of 1848, and the war which ultimately grew out of them—and which has just been brought to a sudden, if not to a satisfactory, conclusion—awakened them both somewhat rudely to a sense of their mistake. It was a misfortune to this country, no less than to the world, that there was only one or at most two English statesmen in the year 1853, who knew the true relationships of the Continental States towards each other, and towards this country; or who had studied politics, not alone with reference to the narrow arena of the British Isles, but with reference to the equilibrium of all Europe, and to the general interests of the civilised world. Are the people and their statesmen wider awake or better informed at the present moment? Is the Peace of Paris—signed, but not yet ratified—worthy of the efforts that have been made to obtain it? And have the Plenipotentiaries, or the Potentates who pulled the strings of their deliberations, looked even five years before them? They have done much for the passing day and its longings for repose; have they given a thought to the morrow and to the troubles with which it is heaving?

Let us consider for a moment what the War has settled, and what the Peace has left unsettled, that we may be the better enabled to judge both of the War and of the Peace; and of the state of affairs which has been inaugurated by the Conferences. At Paris "all has gone merry as a marriage bell." The Russians have shown themselves humble; the Allies—England alone excepted—have been all smiles and sunshine towards the foe; an

heir has been born to the house of Bonaparte amid the congratulations of diplomacy; the dispute with Turkey has been adjusted to the apparent satisfaction of all concerned; the price of diamonds has risen twenty per cent in Paris, to the immense delight of the smug jewellers of the Palais Royal and the Boulevard des Italiens; Paris has given itself a holiday; Prussia has hugged herself in the pleasant delusion that even she has done something towards the restoration of the Peace which she prizes; and the great Czar of all the Russias—sharing the general satisfaction—has announced to his people that the objects of the war are accomplished;—that, the rights of the Christians in Turkey being secured, he has sheathed his sword, and made terms with his opponents upon whom he has thus imposed his own views and his own course of policy. England and Austria have acquiesced in considering the war a purely Turkish one; Turkey, of course, had no call to consider it anything else; and Europe, by the intercession of all who took part in the Conferences, has narrowed the subject to this one issue. On this one issue Peace has been proclaimed. France, Russia, and Prussia, are happy; Turkey is not very much dissatisfied; Austria is somewhat bewildered; Great Britain thinks she ought to be happy, but has a misgiving that, somehow or other, things are not so pleasant or so right as her good friends and allies endeavour to persuade her that they are; while gallant little Sardinia boldly proclaims her dissatisfaction, and treats the Peace as of little value and of problematical permanency. Perhaps Lord Palmerston and Lord Clarendon share the opinions of Count Cavour in this matter; but on this point the public has no means of judging. All that it knows is that the Conferences are yet sitting, and that the postscript of their deliberations, like that of a lady's letter, may perhaps turn out to be more important than the body of their note.

To heal a quarrel is a grand and a beneficent work; but to patch up a difference or a dispute for a day, without heeding whether it may break out with increased virulence to-morrow or the day after, is a work that merits little praise, either for its wisdom or its benevolence. We do not assert that the Peace which has just been concluded is unsatisfactory, for as yet we do not know its terms. The French and the British Governments have both proclaimed it to be honourable to all parties and humiliating to none; and the public must await the authoritative and official promulgation of the treaty before it can deliver its verdict upon the contract to which it has become a party. Yet it is impossible to deny that there is an uneasy feeling in the public mind of this country;—that the pacification is considered to be too sudden and premature to augur a long continuance;—that having had it in our power to clothe the Angel of Peace with new garments, white and unsullied, we have dressed her up in rags and patches;—that we have put out a fire in the forecastle, and taken no heed of the leak in the hold;—that we have been so anxious to bestow mercy and display generosity to a defeated foe, that we have forgotten or neglected to do justice to our friends—that we have driven the robber from the door of Turkey, but have refused to take him into custody; and that in accepting Sardinia for an ally we have tacitly accepted responsibilities towards that Power, and towards the Italy of which she is the hope and the representative, which we have failed to meet except with empty promises and idle sympathies. This instinctive feeling on the part of the public may be right or it may be wrong; but it would be foolish to deny that it exists, or that it will continue to exist, until the tongues of our diplomats and statesmen are unloosened, and the true state of the case made patent to the whole world.



CRIMEAN HEROES AND TROPHIES, AT WOOLWICH.—FROM PHOTOGRAPHS BY J. CUNDALL AND R. HOWLETT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



While continuing to hope that the Peace may deserve all the favour with which the French have greeted it, we cannot shut our eyes against the deep significance of the remonstrances which Sardinia has made on the affairs of Italy; and on the unexpected complications which may thence result in the international relations of those who were lately allies or foes. France, for Napoleonic purposes, may have views with regard to Rome with which Protestant England may possibly sympathise, and against which Greek Russia may have nothing to allege; but against which Austria may feel herself bound to protest, even if her protest should take the form of forty thousand men at Ancona. The designs of Sardinia upon Lombardy and Venice, while highly agreeable to the Italians in those provinces and elsewhere, may perhaps not be in any degree disagreeable to the Emperor of Russia, who can have no great amount of good will towards his good friend Francis Joseph. Great Britain may in like manner be well disposed to punish King Bomba; but if it be a portion of his punishment, as it must, if this country have anything to do with it, to insist upon some degree of constitutional freedom for the unhappy Sicilians, who deserve it; and for the equally ill-governed but less unhappy Neapolitans, who seem to have no great desire for freedom—we do not well see how the Emperor of the French can be a party to the chastisement. We say nothing of Poland, Hungary, or Germany. In Italy alone there are ample materials for the disquietude of all Europe, even though the Peace of Paris may, as regards Turkey, be all that the friends of Turkey can desire.

It is a mistake to suppose that the War was merely a Turkish one; and that no other or higher interests were involved in it than those of the Ottoman empire. It is possible that all these things have been considered; and that, at the supplementary sittings of the Conferences, which are likely to continue for several days, the affairs both of the Scandinavian and the Italian peninsulas are receiving the earnest attention which they merit, if the Peace is to be as stable as it is said to be honourable. In the mean time let it be noted, as a sign how the wind blows, that, in proportion as Russia shows herself inclined to curry favour with France, Austria endeavours to attach herself more strongly to Great Britain. It is well no doubt to hollo when there is occasion for rejoicing, but the British people in this case are not likely to hollo very loudly till they are quite certain that they are "out of the wood."

CRIMEAN HEROES AND TROPHIES.

It will be remembered that, a short time since, her Majesty and Prince Albert visited Woolwich to witness the arrival of a body of the Royal Artillery from the Crimea. Her Majesty was so much pleased with the appearance of some of the men that she gave instructions to have their portraits taken, and has been graciously pleased to allow us to make copies of the photographs, which are executed by Mr. Cundall and Mr. Howlett, of the Photographic Institution.

The two Sergeants on the right—Company Sergeant Christy (sitting), and Sergeant Samuel McGifford, both of the 4th Battalion, served throughout the siege of Sebastopol, and, although they were frequently knocked over with fascines and sandbags, luckily escaped without injury. The pictures, which they have converted into banners, were taken by these worthies from one of the churches of Sebastopol, where they decorated the wall. One picture is of St. Michael, the other of St. George and the Dragon. They are painted in a thoroughly Byzantine style, and in parts are illuminated with gold.

The two Trumpeters left England in July, 1854, and served through the whole campaign. The man, Trumpeter Gritten, arrived in England with an immense beard, which doubtless attracted her Majesty's attention; unfortunately, before the photographers arrived at Woolwich, he had cut off this ornament because it was so red. The lad, William Lang, was barely thirteen years old when he first heard the whistling of cannon-balls on the banks of the Alma. He says he was frightened for the first half-hour, but has never been afraid of them since. The night after the battle he was found by an officer lying under a bush, nearly dead from exhaustion. He was wrapped in a horse-rug, and carried to one of the camp fires, where he speedily recovered. He sounded his trumpet at Balaklava, at Inkerman, and during the whole siege of Sebastopol. His comrades give him the highest praise for his intrepidity. He would ride through a storm of shot to carry provisions to the men in the trench; and when he could be spared he attended to the sick with all the care of a Nightingale. This boy, now fifteen years old, returns to his native town, Woolwich, decorated with the medal with four clasps, the youngest but not the least gallant hero of the war.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE conclusion of peace is the signal for innumerable fêtes, many of them of the utmost splendour. That of the Turkish Embassy last night was among the most magnificent; and ever since the issue of the invitations the costumes have been in preparation. The Préfet of the Seine also contemplates a brilliant ball at the Hôtel de Ville, and a number of other official and semi-official entertainments are taking place and projected. Everything, in short, looks bright and promising; and the aspect of agricultural affairs gives every reason to hope that in a very short time the present high prices will come down to meet the means of the population, and relieve the distress that has but too long reigned among them.

The health of the Empress continues to progress most favourably. Her Majesty has a concert every day in her apartments to lighten the tedious of her temporary imprisonment. Last week certain symptoms in the state of the Prince Imperial excited a degree of uneasiness at the Tuilleries; but these, caused, it is said, by the operation it was found necessary to resort to on the occasion of his birth, seem to be only temporary and not of a dangerous nature, and the alarm they occasioned soon subsided. Orders have been issued that the Villa Eugénie at Biarritz shall be in readiness for the reception of the Empress by the 15th of May.

A considerable discussion, and one which has excited no small degree of interest both among clerical and lay circles, has taken place in the Senate on the occasion of a petition presented by M. de R—, whose daughter has for some years shut herself up in a convent against the wishes of her father, and whence he desires to obtain authority to withdraw her. The termination of these debates is a subject of the highest interest, as fixing the limits of the clerical and paternal power in such instances. It appears that there is a majority of four voices in favour of the cause of M. de R—.

Another case of even greater importance in the eyes of the clergy has lately arisen in consequence of a most melancholy and disastrous duel which took place at St. Germain, and to which the French papers have but slightly referred, without in any way alluding to the discussion arising therefrom. We may, therefore, be permitted to state the whole affair at length. At a mess dinner an officer of the Guards asserting that the army of Lyons was to be present at the late review, he was somewhat rudely contradicted by a brother officer. High words ensued, followed by a challenge; and the two young men—M. de Alséme and M. du Peyrat—proceeded to the manège of the cavalry barracks, where, according to custom,

the duel took place, with the opponents stripped to their shirts and trousers. In one of the first passes the sword of M. du Peyrat entered the heart of his antagonist and broke in the wound, causing death almost instantaneously. On the body of the young man being taken for interment, the Curé refused to permit it to be brought into the church, or to allow it the usual rites of sepulture, asserting that he had the orders of the Bishop of Versailles to act in such a manner. Hereupon the family of M. d'Alséme sent in a petition to the chief authority in the nation, who, by a special despatch, appealed to the Pope in favour of the petition. The reply was an order to the Bishop to accede to the desire expressed, and the interment took place with the usual ceremonies.

The Senate has offered a splendid sword, enriched with jewels to the amount of ten thousand francs, to the Comte Tascher de la Pagerie, on the occasion of his bringing to that body the intelligence of the happy deliverance of the Empress.

A legal separation has been pronounced between the distinguished actress, Madeleine Brohan, and her husband, M. Huchard, in consequence of the ill usage of the latter. Madame Huchard has temporarily retired to a convent.

The races of Paris and Chantilly, at the end of the present month, are to be unusually brilliant. Upwards of one hundred horses are in training in the different studs in the neighbourhood of the capital in preparation for these occasions. Among all the fêtes in preparation, that looked forward to with the greatest curiosity and interest is the one promised by Count Orloff, at the Russian Embassy, at which the Emperor and Empress are to be present, and which will be attended by all the most remarkable personages, native and foreign, assembled in Paris.

On Sunday the Eglise Réformée of France had the misfortune to lose one of the most able, excellent, and conscientious of its representatives and supporters in the person of the Pastor Adolphe Monod, long celebrated for his eloquence in the pulpit, and his zeal and activity in the cause of Protestantism, an activity which entailed upon him an amount of labour and fatigue highly injurious to a naturally delicate constitution. The funeral, which took place on Tuesday, was attended by thousands of persons of all classes, thronging to pay a last tribute of affection and respect to the memory of such a man, of whose life and death we propose next week to offer our readers a brief sketch.

Last week took place the sale of a very remarkable collection of autographs and historical documents of high importance, belonging to a celebrated bibliophile, M. Parison. The history of this collection—belonging formerly, for the most part, to the Jesuit College of Louis le Grand, and classed and added to by M. Parison—being well known among scholars and amateurs, the attendance at the sale was very numerous, and some high prices were realised. Among other curious pieces were a letter inclosing an inedited copy of verses, both from the pen of Corneille; letters and documents from and relating to the great Condé (most of these were purchased for the Duc d'Aumale); letters of Fénelon, Laroche Foucauld, Ignatius Loyola, Bussy Rabutin, and the Acts of the Congress of Munster, with the original signatures of all the members. The Louvre has purchased an entire autograph volume written and illustrated with pen-and-ink drawings by Leonardo da Vinci.

The chief theatrical piece of the moment is Mdme. George Sand's "Franoise," at the Gymnase. The work has not a popular success; but for those who understand and appreciate beauty of style, observation of character, right feeling, and wholesome interest, it is full of charm and merit. The conception of some of the personages displays great originality; and it is admirably represented by Rose Chéri, Berton, Lesueur, Dupuis, Mdme Chéri-Lesueur, and Mlle Delaporte.

In the marriage mentioned in our last letter the name of the bride was Mlle. de Montbrison, a name of the highest distinction.

(From another Correspondent.)

PARIS, April 9.

The number of yesterday's (Tuesday) *Times* has been stopped at the Post-office, and, by a very strange coincidence, the journal *Le Nord* has been admitted in France to-day for the first time.

The reproduction of the song attributed to Beranger is said to be the cause of this measure.

We hear from Genoa that the Queen Amelia has received the visit of Count de Chambord.

A compromise has taken place about the election of a new member at the Academy to fill the *fauteuil* vacant by M. de Molé. The two candidates were M. de Falloux and M. Emile Augier, the author of "Gabrielle," a comedy that was rewarded by the Academy four years ago. M. Augier will be elected this time; and, as there will be another vacancy to fill up in a few weeks, that of M. de Lacreteille, the appointment of M. de Falloux will not meet with any opposition.

Saturday is to be the last sitting of the Conferences. The evacuation of the Principalities has not been obtained without difficulties: nothing short but a threatening of a *casus belli* could decide the Austrian Government to the withdrawal of the army from the Danubian provinces.

As to the affairs of Italy, in spite of the correspondence of the *Times*, nothing has been decided, even in shape of remonstrances.

DISTURBANCES IN SPAIN.

Affairs in Spain are once more looking rather alarming. A telegraph despatch from Madrid, on Tuesday last, says:—

The day before yesterday (April 6) an insurrection broke out in Valencia, for which the conscription was the pretext. The authorities got the better of it. Tranquillity appears to have been re-established. Government has given the strictest orders to declare the province in a state of siege, and to put in force the law of the 17th of April, 1821, against the disturbers of order, without delay. All measures have been taken for repressing rigorously and instantaneously any attempt at disorder, wherever it may occur. Madrid is tranquil, as are all the provinces from which news have been received.

This despatch comes from an official source, and from the wording of the latter sentence there is some reason to suspect that risings may have taken place in other districts.

The Madrid *Diario* of the 3rd mentions a rumour of grave disturbances having broken out at Lorca, owing to the municipality having imposed an unpopular tax; and the *Espana* says that accounts from Saragossa announce that fears of disturbances in that place are entertained, that the municipality had declared that it could not maintain order if the octroi duties should be established, and that troops had been sent into the city.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The Moldavo-Wallachian question is not definitively settled by the Treaty of Peace signed on the 30th of March; but the Four Powers have agreed to send a commission into the two Principalities. On its arrival the commission will proceed to form two general Divans—the one for Wallachia, and the other for Moldavia—whose members are to be elected by the people. As soon as the Divans are duly formed they will proceed to draw up new organic statutes, and propose such reforms as may appear requisite and desirable. When the project of the national Divans is completed, it will be sent to Constantinople, and, after having been revised by the representatives of the Powers, the new constitution will be granted to the Principalities by their Suzerain, the Sultan. It is not probable that Moldavia and Wallachia will be united, but one of the duties of the Commission will be to learn the wishes of the people on the subject. After the internal affairs of the Principalities have been definitely settled, and the new institutions established, Hospodars, natives of the Danubian principalities, will be elected. It may be inferred from this that the parties who have signed the Treaty of Peace are resolved to maintain all the privileges of the Danubian Principalities, but without in any way interfering with the prerogative of the Suzerain Power. It is related in semi-official Austrian circles that the troops of the Western Powers will entirely quit the Turkish territories before the year is at an end; but those persons who best know how little reliance can be placed on promises made by the Porte refuse to believe that such will be the case. The *Ost-Deutsche Post*, which is in some connection with the Austrian Government, says that Austria will also evacuate the

Principalities; "but not until the new frontier of Moldavia is definitely marked out, and the reorganisation of the two provinces completed." This is naturally a question to be settled by the Powers, but the commission appointed by the parties to the peace is not very likely to learn the wishes of the Roumanian nation as long as the state of siege is maintained in the land by a foreign army.

AMERICA.

The Royal mail-steamer *Arabia*, which sailed from Boston on the 26th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday last.

The Washington Cabinet had under consideration, on the 19th, the Sound Dues question, and it is reported that the Danish Government will have, at least, another year's respite before American vessels will attempt a free entrance into the Baltic.

The Senate on the 24th adopted the resolution calling on the President for information respecting the revolution in Nicaragua, especially referring to Walker's seizure of the Transit Company's property.

The compliments of the British Government to Dr. Kane and his associates, for their expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, were received in the United States with grateful feelings.

Dates have been received from Havannah to the 16th ult. There is no political or commercial intelligence. The English fleet still remained in port, and we hear nothing of the reported descent upon Nicaragua. The United States' frigate *Potomac*, and the sloop of war *Cyane*, were in the harbour.

News has been received from Texas. Indian depredations continued, and a party had organised to follow them into Mexico and inflict punishment.

No tidings have yet been learned of the missing steamship *Pacific*. The *Arctic*, which had left New York in search of her, has returned without success. She has been cruising between Sable Island and the latitude of 37 degrees, along the edge of the Gulf.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN QUESTION.

The most recent intelligence from the United States brings very little information regarding the critical state of affairs in Nicaragua. Walker still maintains himself in authority there, but strong doubts are entertained as to his being able to do so much longer. Mr. Clayton had concluded his speech in the Senate on Central American affairs. He stated, on the authority of Mr. Vanderbilt, the president of the Transit Company, that that company had never encouraged Walker's invasion of Nicaragua. He referred to Walker's seizure of the company's property, amounting to nearly 1,000,000 dollars, and read letters from Mr. Vanderbilt to Secretary Marcy, in which the former asks for the interposition of the United States' Government for redress. The seizure was made on the ground that the company was indebted to Nicaragua. Mr. Vanderbilt denied the alleged debt, and refused to submit to the award of arbitrators, as the charges were utterly false. With regard to the settlement of the differences with England, three propositions had been made. Arbitration could not be countenanced, because the passage of the isthmus was necessary for the United States, and not for Great Britain; and because, with an impartial umpire, the American case would be clear. Abrogation of the treaty would give a chance to Great Britain to get possession where she could annoy the United States; and as to giving notice to Great Britain to vacate the premises, it was not proper to do so at present. He proposed to continue the negotiation with the hope of bringing Great Britain to reason by argument. Meanwhile the Americans should arm in their own defence, protect their coast, build fortifications, and increase their navy—not, however, to make the United States rival Great Britain. They should take time to do this. This was the worst time at which they could engage in a war with Great Britain. She was armed cap-a-pie, capable of throwing 40,000 troops from the Crimea on the American coast, and with the greatest naval equipment ever known in the history of the world, whilst the United States were almost defenceless. If Great Britain should see the United States resolved to enforce their rights by pursuing the doctrine laid down by Washington—"In time of peace prepare for war"—she would see the United States building up our fortifications and naval power, the people of England would compel their Government to yield its positions. Since the publication of the correspondence between Lord Clarendon and Mr. Buchanan, public opinion in England had been rapidly tending towards an acknowledgment of the justice of the American construction of the treaty. He had received on this point such information as left no doubt of the fact that the appeal must be from the British Ministry to the British people, who wished to engage in no unjust war with the United States. At any rate, be the consequences what they may, if the United States were driven to the alternative—disgraceful submission or war—they must fight. He could not, however, believe there was any real danger of war. If senators and representatives stood firm and presented an undivided front—if they all agreed on their rights, and manifested a determination to enforce them—they would be respected. The British people would turn any Ministry out rather than fight with such a nation as the United States.

BERANGER'S NEW SONG.

A song recently written by Beranger, and addressed "To the Students," has been circulating in manuscript in Paris, and appeared in the *Times* on Tuesday. The following is a tolerably close adaptation:—

What? Foolish boys—believe once more,
You're free to utter Freedom's cry,
And fête, beneath the tricolor,
Him who again has bid it fly?
Yet my poor songs with love you name?
Forget them—I've disowned them too:
Had I your faith, I'd curse my fame—
Ah! pardon your poor minstrel, do!
How do the days you'd reproduce
Resemble those I used to sing;
I, who ne'er faltered in abuse
Of toad, toad, Emperor, Pope, or King?
One soldier, yes, I hymned; and why?
His crown was gone, his chain in view.
St. Hélène venged our liberty—
Ah! pardon the poor minstrel, do!
Nisard, Leverrier, Belmontet,
For Victor and for Arago!
Accept such substitutes as they—
I—Force's unforgiving foe?
There's ONE in heaven's eternal home!
Loves He the spy and gaoler crew,
Is His the shrine swords guard in Rome?
Ah! pardon the poor minstrel, do!
Ay, battles, and a coat of blue
Thread-bared in fights, Beranger sings,
When our Republic's children true
Beat, twenty years, a League of Kings.
But yon smart Guard, yon watchful spy,
Who'd stab us for promotion—pooh!—
Is he my genial soldier-boy?
Ah! pardon the poor minstrel, do!
To Poland—Italy—we owe
A debt of blood! The cannons sound!
Let's march and pay the debt! Why, no,
So near our home there's slippery ground.
Take Freedom somewhat more afar—
The Turk to taste her charms well sue.
Nations, a Holy League you are!
Ah! pardon the poor minstrel, do!

SHIRLEY BROOKS.

THE CRIMEA.—In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week the lower engraving at page 360 was erroneously described as the interior of the Monastery of St. George; whereas the illustration represents an excavated church in the caverns of Inkerman, on the left bank of the Tchernaya, at the foot of the Quarry Ravine. It has been the post of a French picket since the Battle of Inkerman. The loopholed wall through which the soldier is firing has been up where the original wall has given way, for the place is of very great antiquity. Mr. Simpson has a drawing of the same place in his admirable Crimean scenes, published by Colnaghi. Our misdescription arose from the artist having inscribed his sketch "The Monastery," by which name this excavated church was known in the Camp.

The *Univers* claims for the dogma of the Immaculate Conception the honour of the peace, after having attributed to it all the advantages of the war.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A DEFEAT, sustained by Ministers upon a question which seems to have a fatality for Governments—our domestic dealing with our military—has signalled the week. The Scotch members led the attack with a motion condemnatory of the system of billeting soldiers upon private families, and, being reinforced by the Disraelitish free lance, triumphed by 139 to 116. Government has promised to act in accordance with the decision thus arrived at. There can be no doubt that the existing system is both oppressive to the householder and demoralising to the soldier, and that military training and officering would be far better secured by properly-conducted establishments, maintained at the general expense. As the keeping our army in the excellent condition to which the War has brought it is now the first duty of the War Minister, the billeting system must be considered by him in reference to its bearing upon that object. It will then be for the Finance Minister to remind the House of this week's decision, and to claim such other provision for the soldier as may be shown to be necessary.

In Committee of Supply, on the vote (£17,639) being asked for the National Gallery, a determined attack was made by Mr. Otway, supported by other members, upon Sir Charles Eastlake, the Director, especially in regard to the last important purchase for the Gallery, the "Adoration of the Magi," by Paul Veronese. The discussion was sufficiently warm, and Sir Charles was defended by Mr. Gladstone and Lord Palmerston—by the former in the earnest but gentlemanly manner natural to him, by the latter in the arrogant tone which he sometimes thinks it fitting to assume, and which may be well enough as a "Quos ego—" in an Irish squabble, but is vilely out of place in a discussion upon art, which it may be presumed is generally raised by educated men in every respect Lord Palmerston's equals. He chose to talk about "anonymous writers to the newspapers," and the worthlessness of their strictures, when Mr. Otway had shown that an unfavourable opinion as to this Veronese had been deliberately given as the criticism of several of the best journals in the country. Lord Palmerston does not show his good sense in this kind of scoff, which he might well leave to such persons as Lord Malmesbury and his like. Of the cultivated taste and honourable character of Sir C. Eastlake no one can doubt; but he is liable to error, like every one else who buys a picture; and the best thing such a man's friends can do is to admit the error when made. As to the money part of the business, it is a contemptible affair. Of course money ought not to be wasted, but a blundering official or a cheating contractor can put the nation to five times the expense in this case; and the blunder or fraud will be quietly jotted down as an item in the Estimates. Let us deal like gentlemen with the arts, if we can do no more.

The Crimean Board of Inquiry, which was intended to whitewash the Crimean incapables, has commenced its sittings; and Lord Lucan, who is the first on trial, began characteristically by wishing to have his case separated from the others. This was refused, and his Lordship has proceeded to "upset," in his own opinion, the charges against him. But one of his witnesses is the very officer whom he threatened to arrest for remonstrance, and who adheres with great firmness to his original testimony. Lord Lucan has also abused the *Times* with great fervour, and these are the chief steps he has taken for his exculpation. We wrong him. He has also charged the Commissioners with ill feeling against him,—which he seems to think a third and most convincing proof that he acted rightly.

A little pamphlet, modestly called "Considerations on the New System of Government Contracts," has appeared, and it ought to be in the hands of every member of Parliament during the discussion of the Estimates. It sets forth, *seriatim*, compact proofs of the wickedly improvident way in which our money is laid out by the Executive; and by which the worst articles are bought for the nation. As regards Sheffield ware, the writer says that respectable houses rarely get Government business, and therefore iron is given for steel, and cast for wrought. Bad timber is bought, army clothing is wretched, the saddlery and harness contracts are notorious failures; and other instances are adduced to show how, under a false idea of economy, we get villainous goods, which are, therefore, enormously dear. The writer also enters upon the question whether the Government should manufacture for itself; but this is a fairly debatable inquiry, whereas the facts he has stated admit of no reply. His conclusion is that respectable manufacturers should be paid good prices for their work; and we infer that he would desire a continuous system of contracts which should encourage the manufacturer to maintain first-rate establishments. There are two sides to this argument; but, without attempting upon the present occasion to discuss it, we may console ourselves with the conviction that the existing system is about as bad as it can be.

A lyric from Beranger is not in these days a thing to pass unnoticed. The veteran poet has written some verses, dated from Passy, March 20th, which were being handed about Paris in MS., but which English journalism has given to the world. They are addressed to the students, and are a sort of protest against there being supposed to be any affinity between the Napoleonism and soldierism about which he used to sing and the present system in France. A translation is given elsewhere. The line "Ah! pardonnez au pauvre chansonnier," is the burden of each verse. The poet ends by a scoff at a league for the independence of distant and reluctant Turkey while the "debt of blood" which he alleges that France owes to Poland and Italy is unpaid.

Another distinguished Frenchman, M. de Montalembert ("St." Montalembert, as the *Charivari*, painting him with a nimbus, used to call him in old times), is dragged into a controversy between two English writers. Mr. Wilson Croker and Mr. A. Hayward, and really appears to be unfairly treated. Into the literary part of the controversy we need not enter; but we record our protest against Mr. Croker's assumption that a translator has a right to "cook" a distinguished author's sentiments for the English market. M. de Montalembert is a devoted Roman Catholic, and pities Protestant England, while praising much that she does. We can respect his devotion, submit to his pity, and thank him for his appreciation; but we have no right to alter his language because we do not approve of his sentiments, or "bigotry," as Mr. Croker, perhaps, rightly calls it. Mr. Hayward has so completely the best of the argument, which, indeed, is upon a point one scarcely supposed could be raised in these days, that the veteran reviewer is compelled to have recourse to impertinence, which is to be regretted for the sake of Literature.

Apropos of the Church of Rome, since the other day when an Irish Roman Catholic hierarch announced that our belief in the solar system was heretical, that the sun went round the earth, which it was made to light, and so forth, we have not had such a shock to our astronomical creed as has been inflicted by Mr. Jelinger Symons, her Majesty's Inspector of Schools, who has suddenly found out the moon has no rotary motion; may, he has made a little machine to prove it. He published a letter on Tuesday, stating this discovery; but we are happy to say that the orthodox believers instantly flew to arms, and next day poured upon him a storm of scornful proof that he was an ignorant person who did not know what rotary motion meant, and exhorting him to walk round tables, play at cup-and-ball, and otherwise explain to himself the very simple problem. Mr. Symons appears to have puzzled himself, and to have been somewhat over hasty to communicate the fact without a due test, just as *Don Quixote*, having cloven his helmet in proving it once, repaired it, and then would not test it again—a fine stroke by an artist who well knew human nature.

THE Hon. Leslie Melville, one of the Directors of the East India Company, died on the evening of Tuesday last, after a sudden attack of paralysis. This event places another seat in the direction at the disposal of the Crown.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The journey of the Emperor to Algeria after the ratification of the Treaty of Peace is talked of in Paris. Instructions have been given to expedite the completion of the electric cable from Cagliari to Algiers without loss of time, and the reason assigned is the journey of the Emperor.

The Queen of Greece is expected at Vienna and other German Courts in the course of the summer.

The arrival of the Marquis of Dalhousie is daily expected at Marseilles.

The Empress Dowager of Russia is expected at the Court of her brother, the King of Prussia, Berlin, in the course of May, and, after remaining some time, will take her departure for some of the watering-places in the South.

The Count de Chambord paid a visit on Saturday last to the ex-Queen of the French, Marie Amelie, at her residence at Nervi, near Genoa.

The ex-Regent of Spain is expected to pay a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier at Seville, and thence to Madrid, to visit Queen Isabella.

In order to testify the satisfaction he felt at learning the birth of the Imperial Prince, the Sultan made a present to M. Scheffer, first Dragoman to the French Embassy, who announced the event, of a snuff-box, valued at £1000. to 7000f.

As his Holiness the Pope does not go to Paris, it is said that M. Villecourt will be the bearer of the "golden rose" to the Empress Eugenie.

The latest accounts from Melbourne say that Lady Hotham would sail in the ship *Anglesey* for London.

The Queen of Spain has bestowed the order of the Golden Fleece on the Imperial Prince of France. A high functionary is to carry the insignia to Paris.

It is said that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has seriously thought of resigning, and consequently of quitting Constantinople, and that he is very dissatisfied at not being supported sufficiently in Parliament by Lord Palmerston.

Count Orloff has received communications from St. Petersburg informing him that his presence is necessary there, in order to assist at a grand diplomatic council which is to take place at the end of April. He will be replaced at the Paris Congress by M. Titoff.

Instead of being put off till October, the marriage of the Prince Regent of Baden with the daughter of the Prince of Prussia is to be celebrated in June.

The story runs that Louis Napoleon, on Count Orloff's introduction to him, asked "If he brought peace?" which elicited the courteous reply, "Sire, I come to ask it."

Omer Pacha has been appointed, by a decree of the Sultan, General-in-Chief of the army of Asia. He will leave Constantinople very soon for his post.

The French Emperor has purchased the ancient domain of Fouilleuse, between St. Cloud and Mont Valerien, where he intends to establish a grand model farm. He proposes to collect specimens of the best agricultural implements, and the most perfect races of all varieties of cattle.

The King of Greece has received in private audience M. Mercier, Ambassador of France, who presented to his Majesty the notification of the birth of the Prince Imperial of France. King Otho has ordered M. Tricoupi, Greek Ambassador at London, to proceed to Paris to congratulate the emperor Napoleon on that event.

Sir William à Beckett is appointed Judge, and Mr. J. D. Pincock is appointed Registrar, of the Vice-Admiralty Court of Victoria.

Count Buli has received instructions to remain at Paris, in order to take part in the deliberations upon such details of execution as yet remain to be settled.

The *Bourse Gazette* of Berlin, of the 29th ult., says that M. de Wesphele, Minister of the Interior, whose retirement has been spoken of, has consented to remain in the Cabinet for the present.

Mr. Buchanan, late American Ambassador at London, quitted the Hague on the 3rd for New York.

The Archbishop of Milan, the Bishop of Pavia, and Mgr. Paoli Ballerini have arrived in Vienna, to take part in the deliberations relative to drawing up the law on the Concordat. The first meeting of the bishops took place on Sunday last. More than sixty prelates were present.

Mr. E. L. Betts and Mr. T. Brassey, two of the contractors of the Grand Trunk of Canada Railway, sailed on Saturday last in the *Africa* to promote the contemplated arrangements with the provincial Government for expediting the completion of that undertaking.

Mr. John Bright, M.P., is gradually, though slowly, improving in health.

The notorious ex-Minister of Police, Orazio Mazza, has left Naples for Rome. Some say that his Majesty recommended him to travel; others that he is gone on a mission. However it be, Naples is well rid of him.

A letter from Athens states that Mr. Smith O'Brien is at present travelling in Greece.

The operatic company at St. Petersburg is at an end, and Fanny Cerito and Madame Bosio have quitted the city. M. Tamberg has been giving concerts at Moscow.

Mr. G. M. Dowdeswell, of the Oxford Circuit, has been appointed Recorder of Newbury, in the place of Mr. H. S. Selfe, who was resigned on being appointed one of the metropolitan magistrates of police.

The Méneval says that Madame Cinti-Damoreau, the once-celebrated cantatrice, is about to resign her professorship at the Conservatoire de Musique, and to retire to Chantilly.

Abbotsford House is now open daily to visitors, and will be so during the whole season. Mr. Hope Scott and family have come to town, and, on their return, it is Mr. Scott's intention to spend the summer months on his estate in the west.

The Catholic Bishop of Liverpool, Dr. Goss, performed the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new Catholic church on Tuesday morning. The rain poured down during the whole proceeding, and considerably damped its pomp and circumstance.

The sum of £20 has been paid over towards the amount required for the east window of St. John's Church, Stamford, being the proceeds of the lecture lately delivered in Stamford on the Crimes by Augustus Stafford, Esq., M.P.

Melbourne papers of recent date mention that Miss Catherine Hayes, after fulfilling a short engagement at the Bendigo diggings (!), will sing for a few nights at Sydney, and then return to the Old World for "good and all."

M. Kossuth is announced to deliver two lectures on the effect of the Concordat between the Emperor of Austria and the Pope, at the Concert-hall, Lord Nelson-street, Liverpool, on the 11th and 15th inst.

The Norwich Musical Festival will take place in the autumn of 1857. The Earl of Albemarle has been elected president of the committee of management, and Mr. R. K. Long, the present High Sheriff of Norfolk, vice-chairman.

An advance of 20 to 25 per cent has taken place in the price of diamonds in Paris, which are being bought up for Russia.

The High Church party at Horsham have been defeated in their attempt to render attendance at church a compulsory law to the day-scholars of the grammar-school.

All the Paris *cafés chantants* have received orders to suppress the anti-Russian songs that they have lately been in the habit of giving.

The Persians have taken possession of the Island of Karak, on the Persian Gulf.

It is now said that Palmer will not be tried at the Common Sessions, but at a Special Session, at which the three Chief Justices will sit.

The French Government has chartered a number of merchant vessels for the conveyance of stores from the Crimea, and a number of articles which are to be first shipped have already been sent to Kamiesch.

Seven different proposals for forming banks have been submitted to the Porte by different capitalists.

The spring herring fishery is proceeding favourably on the Norfolk coast.

The French Minister of Finance has been authorised by Imperial decree to raise to 250,000,000 of francs the amount of Treasury Bonds to be issued for the service of the State in 1856.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that a special section at the Home Department has been formed, and charged with "taking cognisance of all offences against orthodoxy."

Several meteors, in the shape of fiery globes, were remarked on the night of the 22nd ult. in various parts of Piedmont, especially at Ivrea and Pent St. Martin.

The British agents in Spain and elsewhere, employed on special missions to purchase cattle and stores for the Army, have been ordered to close their operations, and dispose of their purchases as early as possible.

COLLISION WITH AN ICEBERG.—ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE LIVES LOST.

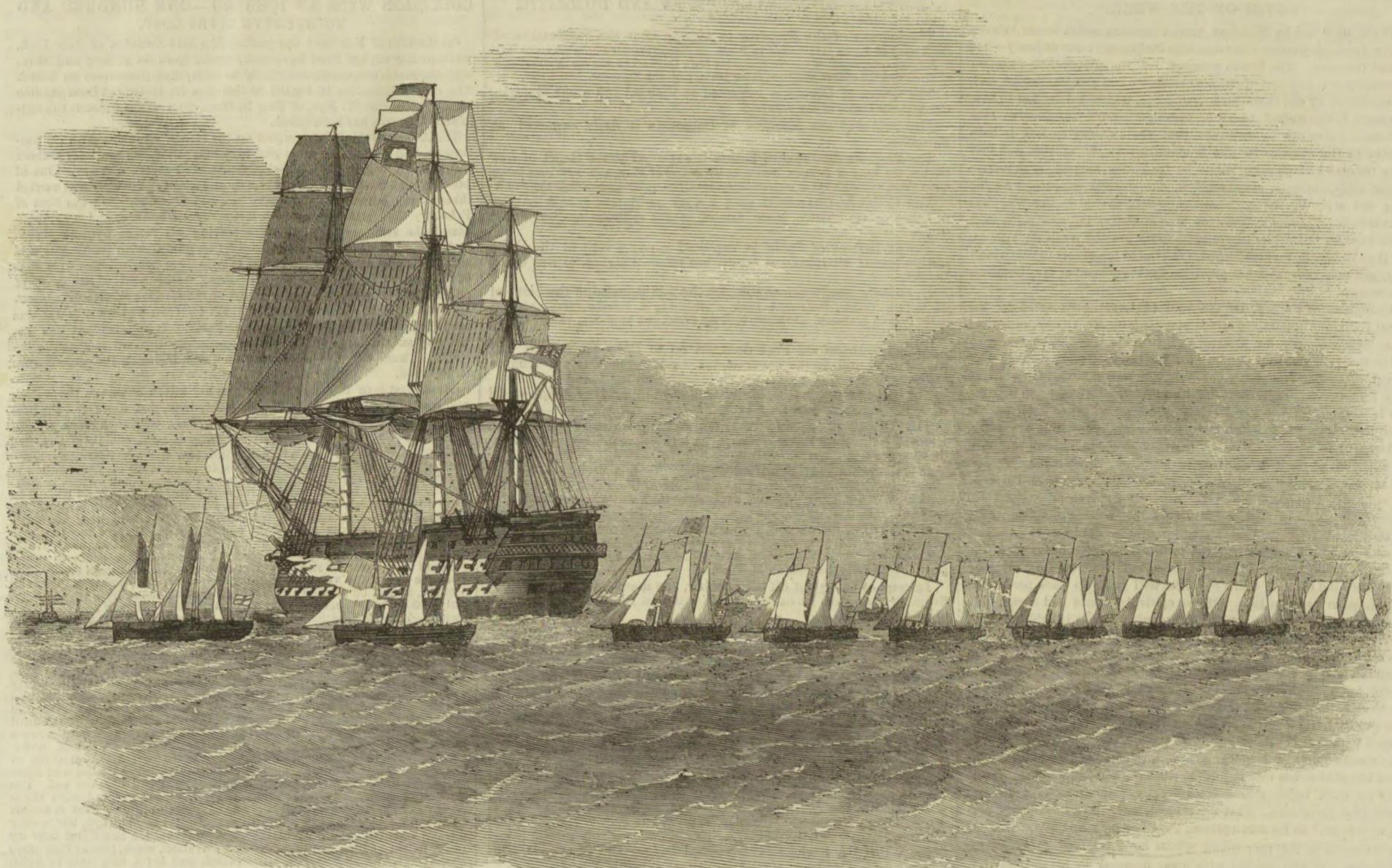
On the 20th of February the packet-ship *John Rutledge*, of New York, while on her voyage from Liverpool, struck upon an iceberg and sank, with the mate, carpenter, and thirty to thirty-five passengers on board. The only information in regard to this disaster is derived from the sole survivor, Thomas W. Nye, of New Bedford, from whose account the subjoined narrative has been taken.

The *John Rutledge* left Liverpool on the 16th of January, with 120 passengers, and a crew of officers and men numbering, we are told, sixteen persons. During the passage she encountered severe weather. One of her crew was washed off the bowsprit, and a male passenger was carried through the bulwarks by a heavy sea and drowned. On the 20th of February the *John Rutledge* was struck by an iceberg, and was abandoned the same evening. Before leaving his vessel, Captain Kelly, finding that she leaked badly, manned the pumps with passengers and seamen; and, as the leak continued to gain upon her, had about 100 bags of salt and a number of crates of crockery broken out of the forehold and thrown overboard. Getting clear of the ice soon after, it was discovered that a plank was started from the forefoot, and an attempt was made to stuff the leak with blankets and rags. It appears that this was not very successful, as the captain subsequently decided to abandon the vessel. There were five large boats on board, in which 134 persons were to be saved.

When last seen the ship was down to her mizen chains in the water; and from the character of her cargo—salt, iron, and crockery—she probably went down in a short time afterwards. Of the thirteen persons in the last of the five boats there were four women, one little girl, five male passengers, Mr. Nye, a Scotch sailor, and the boatswain, an Irishman. For the subsistence of these people there were only one gallon of water and six or eight pounds of bread. The mate had placed a compass in the boat, but his wife, in leaping from the ship, had broken it. Cast thus helplessly upon the open sea, among the banks of Newfoundland, and surrounded by drift and berg ice, their prospect could hardly have been more gloomy. Soon after the boat broke adrift; night came on—how it passed may be imagined. Little was said by any one, and probably all of them soon came to a sad sense of their dreadful situation, for as soon as Mrs. Atkinson entered the boat she seized the vessel containing the water, and, being a powerful woman, fought off all who attempted to obtain a drink from it. Nye got only two or three mouthfuls, the rest was drunk by herself and the boatswain. What disposition was made of the bread does not appear. The probability is that there was no organisation whatever among the little party, but everyone looked out for himself. Having no compass nor sign by which to steer, they did not exert themselves other than to keep the boat before the sea. The sailors were warmly clothed, as was also Mrs. Atkinson; but the passengers for the most part were very scantily attired, and suffered keenly from the cold. Day after day only dawned to raise their spirits anew with hopes of succour, which the long and dreary nights turned to the bitterness of despair. Thus time passed until the third day, when one of the little band, a man whose clothes were too thin to shield him from the bleak weather, sank under the combined effects of cold and hunger, and his body was committed to the deep. Then a woman died in the arms of her husband and little daughter, and her corpse was also silently dropped into the sea. The fourth day came, and with it the same angry sea, the same leaden sky—no ray of hope anywhere visible. The cold was so intense that it almost froze the marrow, and not a drop of water could be obtained, while only a small quantity of food remained. Human nature could not bear up much longer against this exposure and privation, when, just as they were about to give up all hope, the wind lulled, and lo! a brig hove in sight. "She was not very far off," and they pulled for her with might and main. Signals were also made. For some time they seemed to gain upon her, but she did not see them, and, the wind freshening, she was soon out of sight. With her went all hope. A burning thirst soon fell upon all of them, and, heedless of young Nye's earnest appeals, they fell to drinking salt water. This only increased their thirst, and they drank eagerly and repeatedly of the fatal fluid.

What followed is the old story of delirium and death. One by one they grew mad and maddened; besought each other to kill them; then they dreamed of sitting at sumptuous feasts, and spoke of the rare dainties which mocked their grasp; of the delicious beverages which they in vain essayed to quaff. At length, worn out with the intensity of their physical and mental sufferings, they grew more subdued, their haggard features became rigid, their wild eyes assumed a glassy look, and their shrunken forms seemed gradually to subside—the next lurch of the boat tumbled them off the seats dead! Such were the sights which young Nye witnessed daily. As they died he threw their bodies into the sea, as long as his strength lasted. He says that, although his thirst was of the most agonising character, he not only warned his fellow-sufferers against drinking salt water, but showed them how to obtain relief by simply rinsing his mouth occasionally. They were hopeless and desperate, and would not listen to him. The boatswain grew delirious, and died within twelve hours after drinking it. In his delirium he was most violent. He attempted to throw the oars overboard, and did succeed in throwing over the bucket with which they baled out the boat. Nye did his best to quiet him and stop him from drinking more sea-water; but he struck him a severe blow upon the chin. Mrs. Atkinson was also very violent; and, being of a strong constitution, it was a long time before she expired. His recollection of events which occurred about this time is very indistinct. On the sixth day there were only himself, a small woman wrapped up in two blankets, and the little girl alive in the boat. Before sunset the child died, and on the day following the woman breathed her last. He had strength enough to throw the body of the child overboard; but that of the woman, together with the bodies of three others, was so coiled up under the thwart that he was unable to extricate them. Feeling a strong sense of drowsiness creeping over him, he fastened a red shirt and a white shirt to an oar, and, hoisting it to attract any passing vessel, he coiled himself up in the stern of the boat and dozed away the hours. Occasionally he would rouse himself, and bale out the boat, and then lie down again. He did not sleep, but the time passed in a kind of waking vision. Occasionally he felt light-headed, and began to dream of being at home in New Bedford with his family. Fearing that he too might be delirious, he fought against these influences, and kept himself awake by various means. At first the sight of his ghastly companions caused him much distress, and his mind became oppressed with gloomy forebodings. He resolved to shake these feelings off, and hope for help even to the last, thinking it better to go to the next world with all his senses about him than to die a raving maniac. Thus resolved, he bore up bravely and to the end.

On the 28th of February a ship hove in sight of the lonely boy. He says that he saw her before those on board discovered him, and he was sure from the first that they would pick him up. That vessel was the packet ship *Germania*, Captain Wood, from Havre, bound to New York. When Captain Wood descried the solitary boat he ordered one of his own quarter-boats to be lowered, and sent an officer to see what it contained. As they approached him poor Nye groaned, "For Jesus Christ's sake, take me out of this boat!" They did take him out, with womanly tenderness, and, with the boat and its fearful load in tow, rowed back to the ship. The young sailor was quickly transferred to the comfortable cabin of the *Germania*, and his late companions were thrown into the sea. It is a wooden life-boat, about twenty-five feet long. After being thoroughly cleaned it was hoisted on board and brought into port. Of the other boats of the *John Rutledge* no tidings have been received. Nye thinks that those were as badly off as he was, if not worse, and entertains but little hope that any of them would be picked up. Only the Captain's boat was furnished with a compass, and it is probable that



THE GUN-BOAT FLOTILLA OFF PORTLAND.—SKETCHED BY LIEUTENANT MONTAGU O'REILLY.

THE GUN-BOAT FLOTILLA OFF PORTLAND.

We gave last week a View of the Red and White Divisions of the Light-draught Gun-boats, under the orders of Captain H. Keppel, C.B., H.M.S. *Colossus*, 81 guns, leaving the Motherbank; and we now present our readers with the Squadron coming into Portland, from a sketch forwarded us by Lieutenant Montagu O'Reilly, now in command of H.M. gun-boat *Seagull*.

After leaving the Motherbank the vessels, under steam alone, formed in two lines, and followed in the wake of the *Colossus*, but the two-decker soon showed her superiority in speed, and the little fleet received orders to spread as much canvas as would enable them to keep their positions with her. This they did in excellent style, and their appearance as they neared Portland presented a very pleasing picture. Our readers may consider these little craft as the light cavalry of the navy; and they will prove

an interesting feature in the forthcoming naval review at Portsmouth. The fleet consisted of the following vessels:—Red or Starboard Division: *Charger*, *Dove*, *Beaver*, *Biter*, *Whiting*, *Bustard*, *Mayflower*, *Grasshopper*, *Pincher*, *Goshawk*; and the White or Port Division of the *Seagull*, *Thistle*, *Sandfly*, *Julia*, *Pelter*, *Herring*, *Bullfrog*, *Plover*, *Ruby*, and others, accompanied by the Admiralty yacht *Black Eagle* and the dispatch gun-boat *Wanderer*.



THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH AND COUNT ORLOFF PROCEEDING TO THE GRAND REVIEW, IN THE CHAMP DE MARS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE YARMOUTH HERRING FISHERY.—RETURN OF THE BOATS.

THE YARMOUTH HERRING FISHERY.

The return of the Spring Herring Fishery has suggested the accompanying artistic Illustration of this very interesting branch of coast industry. The locality is Yarmouth, north of which are the fishing-places, from fifteen to thirty miles, and from thirty to forty-five eastward; while the

boats go southward as far as the mouth of the Thames and the South Foreland. Herrings also frequent a part opposite Yarmouth called the Head; and a place known by the fishermen as the Brown Bank, on the Dutch coast. There is also a smaller sort of herring caught at Yarmouth, by boats nearer the shore: they are of good quality, and are called "long shores," or "alongshore herrings."

When the fishery is near home, great numbers of boats depart from the shore at sunset to set their nets, returning in the morning to dispose of their cargoes. The beach at such times presents a very picturesque appearance, and when seen from the platform of the Jetty, from which a view of the whole business of the herring-boats may be commanded, exhibits a scene of an exceedingly animated and bustling description.



SALE OF HERRINGS, ON THE QUAY, GREAT YARMOUTH.

This structure, erected in 1808, at a cost of upwards of £5000, is exceedingly convenient to seamen and others engaged in mercantile pursuits. It extends into the sea upwards of 450 feet, and is composed of strong oak piles driven into the soil, braced together by cross-beams of the same material, and well secured by iron fastenings; upon the top is a platform twenty-one feet in width, surrounded by a substantial railing. It is intended to facilitate the approach of boats to the beach, and the landing of passengers in bad weather, which would otherwise be attended with much danger. It was, until the recent erection of the Wellington Pier, the first pile of which was driven on the 28th of June, 1855 (an account of which is given in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of July 9th of the same year), one of the most fashionable and favourite promenades during the bathing season. As a fashionable lounge the latter, however, now takes the lead.

The produce of the fishing-boats is conveyed from the beach, and from the larger vessels lying alongside the quay, to the premises of the herring-curers, by means of a peculiar kind of low cart, called a beach cart, or "troll," to the shafts of which, when the load is unusually heavy, an additional horse can be attached. Their original construction was owing to the narrowness of the alleys or rows communicating with the quay, which are not of sufficient width to admit of the passage of the usual kind of cart; and at one time, "when there were no wider streets communicating directly with the quay," served as a means of speedy conveyance of goods to the interior of the town. They will carry a heavy load, the fishermen being very dexterous in the manner in which they pack the cart, which they will sometimes do to a great height.

The second illustration represents the sale of the cargo of one of these vessels on the quay at Yarmouth, the great and ancient mart of herrings. A number of baskets called "swells," somewhat in shape to a baker's basket, but considerably longer, with a broad flat handle in the centre, at top, and presenting, from its being depressed at the sides, the appearance of a double basket, are ranged side by side to the number of twenty. These baskets are filled by means of a smaller basket, called a "marnd," into which the fish are counted from the vessel by the men engaged; they are emptied into the swells, and contain each 250 herrings: two of these marnds make one swell, and twenty swells, or a complement of 10,000 herrings, one last. The price of a last varies according to the season and the condition of the cargo, averaging from £10 to £16 and upwards; the Brown Bank herrings, which are held in great esteem, having been known to have sometimes sold as high as £30 and £40 per last. The sale is conducted in the following manner:—A bid is made by one of the persons assembled, the advances on which are made in crowns; the salesman, generally the owner of the vessel, rapidly naming the amount of each advance, until no more bids are offered, when he books it to the last bidder. The effect of one of these groups must be exceedingly novel and striking to a stranger from the motley and characteristic appearance of the persons composing it, who, if dress were any criterion, would scarcely be accounted the men of capital some of them are.

Among the offences recorded, there is one to the effect that in the year 1541 Alleyne, a shoemaker, and Hammond, a merchant, were fined 2s. each; the one for buying, the other for selling, a last of herrings in church during Divine service. The greater quantity of herrings are purchased by the curers; a considerable proportion are, however, forwarded from the quay to other markets, in trucks worked by horses, on a tramway communicating from the quay to the railway terminus, whence they are conveyed per rail to their destination.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 13.—3rd Sunday after Easter. Vaccination introduced, 1796.
MONDAY, 14.—Mutiny at Spithead, 1797.
TUESDAY, 15.—Easter Term begins. Sir Walter Scott born, 1771.
WEDNESDAY, 16.—Arrival of the Emperor and Empress of the French, 1855.
THURSDAY, 17.—Benjamin Franklin died, 1790.
FRIDAY, 18.—American War commenced, 1775.
SATURDAY, 19.—St. Alphege. Lord Byron died, 1823.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 19, 1856.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
8 6 8 50 9 40 10 20	11 5 11 40	0 10 35 0 55	1 10 1 30	1 45 2 0		

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—It is respectfully announced that Her Majesty's Theatre will RE-OPEN early in May. Engagements of great interest have been effected, both in Opera and Ballet, and the best exertions used to make the arrangements worthy of the occasion. The prospectus will shortly be issued. The subscribers and friends of Her Majesty's Theatre who feel an interest in the success of this great establishment are respectfully invited to forward early intimation of their intention to subscribe. The season will consist of thirty nights, and the prices will be as follows:—Pit Boxes, 120 to 150 guineas; Grand Tier, 80 to 200 guineas; One Pair, 120 to 150 guineas; Two Pairs, 75 to 100 guineas; Pit Stalls, 25 guineas.—The Box-office is now open.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES KEAN respectfully inform the Public that their ANNUAL BENEFIT will take place on MONDAY FORTNIGHT, APRIL the 28th, on which occasion will be produced Shakespeare's Play of THE WINTER'S TALE. Leontes, Mr. C. Kean; Hermione, Mrs. C. Kean.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—MONDAY and FRIDAY, A WONDERFUL WOMAN, FAUST AND MARGUERITE. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. TUESDAY, THE FIRST PRINTER. THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. WEDNESDAY, LOUIS XI. THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. THURSDAY, HENRY VIII. THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR. SATURDAY, THE CORSICAN BROTHERS. THE VICTOR VANQUISHED. And A PRINCE FOR AN HOUR.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—M. and Mdme. Gassier, Mr. Swift, Miss Louise Vionnet, the Infant Prinette, Mlle. D'Herbin, Miss P. Horton, Mr. Frank Mori, and Mr. Alfred Mellon (with full orchestra), will appear at the above Theatre on WEDNESDAY, the 16th of APRIL, on which occasion the Tragedy of OTHELLO will be performed (by the Amateurs who played last year for the Patriotic and Crimean Funds), being for the BENEFIT of a LITERARY GENTLEMAN.—Tickets and full particulars at Cramer, Beale, and Co.; and other Musicsellers and Libraries.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—MONDAY, APRIL 14, and during the Week, the new and greatly-successful Comedy of THE EVIL GENIUS; after which the renowned Spanish Dancer, PEREA NENA, with MANUEL PEREZ and a New Spanish Company, in the New Ball-t-Pantomime of EL GAMBUSINO. On MONDAY and TUESDAY only (by desire) LEND ME FIVE SHILLINGS.—Mr. Golightly, Mr. Buckstone, With, Every Evening, the new Farce of THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK. On Thursday Miss Talbot will make her First Appearance here.

ADELPHI THEATRE ROYAL.—MONDAY and During the Week, LIKE AND UNLIKE; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, JACK and the BEAN-STALK; Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday (first times at second price), URGENT PRIVATE AFFAIRS, and MOTHER and CHILD are DOING WELL.

STILEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. WILLIAM COOKE.—A continuous round of exciting and ludicrous incidents keeps the audience on the qui vive of expectation during the vivid representation of the novel and elaborate exhibition of a real Steeplechase. A noble Stud of Race-horses trained by Mr. W. Cooke; daring and skilful Riders, who leap their horses from the stage to the ring, combine to elicit the most cheering and prolonged approbation. MONDAY, APRIL 14, and all the week, THE ARAB OF THE DESERT AND HIS FAITHFUL STEED. After which the WONDERS of the CIRCLE, Trampolines, Gymnastics, &c. &c. To conclude with a Drama, introducing ENGLAND'S HARVEST HOME and NATIONAL STEEPECHASE.

GREATH NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shore-ditch.—Proprietor, Mr. JOHN DOUGLASS. Engagement of Miss GLYN, Mr. H. MARSTON, and Miss REBECCA ISAACS. Shakspeare's Plays of ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA and A WINTER'S TALE. Upwards of 200 Artists will be employed. Miss Rebecca Isaacs will also appear in Opera.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-Hall.—Conductor, Mr. Costa.—The Committee have the pleasure to announce that an EXTRA PERFORMANCE will be given on FRIDAY WEEK, the 25th APRIL, when Mr. Costa's Oratorio ELLA will be again repeated. The following distinguished artists will sustain the principal Vocal Parts.—Madame Clara Novello, Madame Viardot Garcia, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formis.—The Band and Chorus numbering nearly 700 Performers.—Special Stall Tickets, One Guinea; Central Area, 10s. 6d.; Gallery and Area, 5s.; Unreserved, 3s., at the principal Musicsellers, or at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter-hall. To commence at Eight o'clock.

MUSICAL UNION.—TUESDAY, APRIL 15th.—Half-past Three o'clock.—Quartet in C, with Fugue, Haydn; Sonatas, Beethoven; Nonett, in F. Soprano; Solos, Pianoforte. Executants: Cooper, Carrodus, Hill, Paque, Severn, Remusat, Barret, Lazarus, Baumann, and C. Harper. Pianiste: Madame Schumann, her first a pearance. Tickets, 10s. 6d. each, to be had at the usual places. J. ELLA, Director.

UNDER the immediate PATRONAGE of her MAJESTY the QUEEN, his Royal Highness the Prince Albert, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge.—Mr. BENEDICT has the honour to announce that his ANNUAL CONCERT is fixed to take place at EXETER-HALL, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 21, upon the same grand scale as those of former years. Madam Jenny Goldschmidt-Lind, and M. Otto Goldschmidt have most kindly consented to perform on the occasion, and their return from the provinces. Reserved seats, one guinea; unreserved seats, 10s. 6d. The places will be appropriated according to priority of application, and no more tickets will be issued than can be conveniently accommodated.—Application for tickets to be made to Mr. Mitchell, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

MISS P. HORTON'S POPULAR ILLUSTRATIONS.—Mr. and Mrs. T. GERMAN REED will give their NEW ENTERTAINMENT, consisting of Musical and Characteristic Illustrations, introducing a variety of amusing and interesting scenes from real life, with English, French, and Italian Songs, EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at the Royal Gallery of Illustration, 14, Regent-street, commencing at Eight o'clock, and terminating at a quarter-past Ten. Price of admission, 2s., 1s.; Stalls, 3s., which can be secured at the Gallery during the day. A Morning Performance every Saturday at Three o'clock, when the Free List will be suspended. No Performance on Saturday Evenings.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, HOLLAND, UP THE RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN, Every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight o'clock. Stalls (which can be taken from a plan at the Box-office every day between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge), 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three o'clock.—EGYPTIAN HALL.

LOVE, the first Dramatic VENTRiloquist in EUROPE, EVERY EVENING at Eight, except Saturday; Saturday at Three. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets at Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and the Box-office, from Eleven to Three.—Regent's Hall, 69, Quadrant, Upper Hall.

MR. W. S. WOODIN AS RACHEL IN "LES HORACES." W. S. WOODIN'S OLLIO of ODDITIES EVERY EVENING at Eight, at the POLYGRAPHIC HALL, King William-street, Strand. Box-office open from Eleven to Five. Morning Performances every Saturday, at Two o'clock.

THE CRIMEAN EXHIBITION.—Authentic Sketches, Drawings, and Pictures, executed in the Crimea, including Mr. Armitage's Grand Pictures of the Battles of Balaklava and Inkermann, Carlo Bossoli's Drawings, and the whole of the Sketches by Mr. William Simpson, composing the celebrated work (published under the patronage of her Majesty). "The Seat of War—Colaghi's Authentic Series."—NOW OPEN, from Ten till Dusk, at the FRENCH EXHIBITION GALLERY, 121, Pall-mall.—Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 6d.

ADELAIDE GALLERY, LOWER HALL, LOWTHER ARCADE.—"A thing of beauty is a joy for ever!"—LOUIS BOURRENIE'S EXHIBITION from the Paris Exposition, containing 80 various, magnified, dioramic, transparent Scenographs, in all the Seasons, and by day, star, and moon-light, viewed through fixed double monocular telescope lens, producing effects marvellous to the eye, are constantly on view from 11 in the Morning till 10 in the Evening.—Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—JUVENILE MORNING every WEDNESDAY, commencing at 1, with a Popular Lecture on Science; 1.30 Cosmopolitan Rooms thrown Open; 2, Second Part of the Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor; 3, Original Entertainment by Mr. Matheus entitled A Peep at Ancient and Modern Magic; 4.45, entirely New Grand Historical, Romantic, and Musical Entertainment, entitled Kenilworth, with the Visit of Queen Elizabeth to the Earl of Leicester, with beautiful Dioramic Illustrations, and the Grand Hall of Kenilworth by Messrs. Carpenter and Westley.—Admission to the whole, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

ROYAL PANOPTICON—MONDAY EVENING CONCERTS.—On MONDAY, APRIL 14th, 1856, grand miscellaneous CONCERT. Principal singers—Mdlle. Huderscorff, Miss Ransford, Miss Lascelles, Madame Marietta, Miss Clari Fraser, Mr. Henri Haigh (by permission of J. H. Tully, Esq.), and Mr. Raasford. Flute, Mr. B. Wells; Pianoforte, Master Werner; Accompanist, Mr. Charles Blagrove. Mr. E. T. Chipp will preside at the grand Organ. Luminous and Romantic Fountain at 9.55. Admission, 1s.; reserved seats, 1s. extra. Children and schools half-price.

THE LION-SLAYER AT HOME, 232, Piccadilly.—Mr. GORDON CUMMING DESCRIBES every night, except Saturday, at Eight, what he saw and did in South Africa. Morning entertainments every Saturday at Three o'clock. The Pictures are painted by Messrs. Richard Leitch, Harrison Weir, George Thomas, Wolf, Charles Hagedorn, and Phillips. The Music conducted by Mr. J. Colson. Admittance 1s., 2s., and 3s. Children half-price in the Reserved Seats and Stalls. The Museum is open GRATIS during the Day from Eleven till Six (Saturdays excepted). "One of the most interesting and remarkable entertainments on record."—Literary Gazette.

THE PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street, opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution.—The NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS is now open, from Nine till dusk.—ADMISSION, 1s.; catalogue, 6d.

FENTON'S CRIMEAN PHOTOGRAPHS.—The Exhibition of 250 Photographs, taken in the Crimea, to which is added the collection taken by Mr. Robertson after the fall of Sbastopol, is OPEN DAILY at the Rooms, No. 162, PICCADILLY, from 10 to 6.—Admission, 1s.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The Palace and Park are Open to the Public on Mondays at Nine a.m., and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, at Ten a.m., on which days the admission is 1s.; and on Saturdays at Noon, when the admission is 1s., closing each day at Seven p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the London-bridge Terminus, and at the several agents in London. Trains run from London-bridge to the Crystal Palace Station at 8 a.m., 9.0 a.m., and every half-hour from 10.10 a.m. to 4.0 p.m., and at 4.25, 4.50, and 5.50 p.m.; returning from the Crystal Palace at short intervals throughout the day up to 6.40 p.m.

DR. KAHN begs to announce to the Medical Profession and the Public that his celebrated ANATOMICAL MUSEUM has been enriched by a large number of original objects and models of interest, including a magnificent full-length figure of Venus, from one of the most renowned of the old masters. The new series of specimens and models embrace some most curious and important features, illustrative of the anatomy of the human structure, and rendering the collection wholly unrivaled in the world. The Museum has been re-arranged, and arrangements have been made to promote the comfort and accommodation of the visitors. The Museum is open daily, from till Ten (for Gentleman only). Letters are delivered at Twelve, Two, Four, and Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. SEXTON; and a new and highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. KAHN, at Half-past Eight every Evening. Admission, One Shilling.—4, Coventry street, Leicester-square.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1856.

THE discussion that took place on Wednesday on Mr. Milner Gibson's Oath of Abjuration Bill has thrown no new light on the vexed question of the exclusion of Jews from the British Parliament. Session after Session for nine years the House of Commons, the best judge of its own affairs, has decided by considerable majorities that British Jews ought to be admitted to Parliament, if British constituencies think proper to elect them. Session after Session for the same period the House of Lords has rejected the claim; and so the matter has rested—a scandal to the statesmanship that has attempted the remedy, and failed to apply it. Mr. Milner Gibson's bill has sought to remove the exclusion under which the Jews labour, and to extend, by a new form of oath, those principles of civil and religious liberty on which our Constitution is now based; and the House of Commons, by a majority of 230 against 195, has once more affirmed its concurrence in the principle, and declared that a Jew may help to make the laws of Great Britain as well as to administer them. We shall not weary the patience of our readers by any recapitulation of the arguments on either side. We should like, we confess, to see this question tried more broadly and palpably on its own merits, and the issue fairly raised on the one point, without reference to any form of oath whatsoever, whether British Jews may, or may not, sit in Parliament? In the present state of the law, we either accord to the Jews too many rights and privileges, or one right and

privilege too few. If it be contrary to the spirit of Christianity;—a practical denial of the Christian faith;—a de-Christianisation of the State, that Jews should be admitted into that Parliament where Unitarians, Deists, or Atheists may sit, speak, and vote, unquestioned, it must be equally a denial of the Christian constitution of the country if the vote of a Jew or Jews can return a member to Parliament; if a Jew can purchase an advowson and appoint a minister of the Gospel; or if a Jew, like Lord Mayor Salomons, can sit on the judgment-seat and administer justice between contending Christians. If Mr. or Baron Rothschild is not fit to sit in Parliament, let the fact be so declared openly and broadly, and let Mr. Salomons at the same time descend from his chair in the Mansion-house, and let every Jew voter throughout the country be forthwith struck from the register. But if such a disfranchisement of, and such a stigma on, a body of well-behaved, well-disposed, thrifty, and generally exemplary citizens be a thing that Bishops in the House of Lords, Sir Frederic Thesiger in the Lower House, and the body of those who still

The last news from the Australian colonies leaves the principal of them, Victoria, in a state of anarchy. The Governor dead, the temporary Governor succeeding by law objected to, and the people and the press clamouring for the right to elect their own Governor; and the Ministerial crisis, brought about by the new Legislature's adoption of the ballot, chronic and apparently invincible. At such a time it is obvious that the communication between the colony and the mother-country ought to be the most rapid that geography will permit and steam can attain; and yet the ship which brought the details of this news, arriving at Liverpool on Wednesday last, left Melbourne on the 12th of January. And this is an extraordinarily fast passage. But it has been shown over and over again that, practically, Melbourne can be brought within from thirty-five to forty-five days' distance of London; and the fact that, under the existing organisation of the postal service, we are separated by, on an average, ninety days is not creditable to the administration of this commercial country. For the last eighteen months, under the pretence that the war used up all the steamers, there has been no steam communication between England and Australia; and notwithstanding that steam communication has all that time been easily maintained to every other commercial point. In those eighteen months the Australias have been, next to the United States, the best market in the world possessed by Great Britain. In those eighteen months Australian gold, supplied to the amount of a million sterling a month, has saved England from commercial panic, the Bank having been dependent from week to week on the arrivals of Melbourne gold-ships. The loss to merchants in the interest on the gold unnecessarily delayed at sea amounts to a sum which would build a fleet. At last these merchants have become wearied of expostulation with the non-commercial Lords of the Treasury, and a meeting is to be held in the City on Monday, the Lord Mayor in the chair, to offer a public protest.

On Monday night, in the House of Commons, there was a conversation on the point between Lord Hardwicke and the Duke of Argyll, the new Postmaster-General. Lord Hardwicke pointed out that, if the mails were taken by the "Overland" route, across Suez, and at Aden transferred to steamers of great speed, these steamers going straight across the Indian Ocean to Melbourne, touching only at the Island of Diego Garcia for coal, the course of post between St. Martin's-le-Grand and Port Phillip Bay need never exceed, at the farthest, forty days. The calculation is based upon the figures of the official Hydrographer to the Admiralty, and is supported by the statements of high authorities among mercantile and naval people. But the Post-office seems determined on routine in the arrangement. They have issued a minute inviting steam-ship companies to tender for three routes, *via* (by steam) the Cape of Good Hope, *via* Panama, *via* Suez and Point de Galle—the old route; and, meanwhile, as the colonies are to share the expenses, they have sent out despatches to Australia requiring the six colonies to agree (!) which route they prefer. This, it is shown, involves a delay of about eighteen months; and in the interval the Government appears resolute to maintain the service by the Liverpool clippers round the Cape; that is to say, they maintain the worst possible route by the slowest possible means, in order not to prejudice the question! Common sense revolts at this. Let the Duke of Argyll win for himself a reputation in his new capacity by insisting on action in this matter.

FRENCH INSURANCE AGAINST ENGLISH FIRES.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer, unwilling to surrender any portion of the revenue, is determined to continue the taxes on prudence, threatened by the invasion of a French Insurance Company. For this object he has introduced a new measure into Parliament by which every person who undertakes an agency for a foreign fire-office, or proclaims its terms of business or even its existence, shall be required to take out a proper license, and give security in such form and manner as the Commissioners of Inland Revenue shall prescribe "for accounting and paying the dues with which he shall be chargeable," under a penalty of £100 for every day that he may act as an unlicensed agent. Foreign insurance-offices are to pay the same dues as English offices. By this enactment the Chancellor of the Exchequer expects to drive the foreigner from the field of competition.

It is an old saying, that what one man can invent another man can circumvent. The smuggler protests against all commercial restrictions; and, however culpable his conduct may be, he is one of the champions of Free-trade, and frequently baffles the ingenuity of lawyers and the vigilance of the Custom House. Let us assume that a French assurance-office were established at Boulogne: with the present facilities for crossing the Channel, what is to prevent an individual going to Boulogne and there paying his premium? and who is to restrain such an individual from rendering the same service to his friends? Any act of this description, not done within the realm of England, is not amenable to English jurisdiction, so that the new law is easy of evasion; it may cause some trouble, but the enormous saving effected would be ample compensation. Seven-eighths of the property in France is insured; with us not one-eighth. Surely we are as prudent a people as our neighbours; and if the Chancellor will even reduce the duty to one shilling he will get rid of a rival; and, far from losing, increase the revenue. He will also avoid the violation of that principle of Free-trade by virtue of which alone he and his party are in power.

COMMERCE WITH RUSSIA.

(From a Supplement to the Gazette of Tuesday.)

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 9th day of April, 1856, present the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council. Whereas a treaty of peace and friendship has been signed between her Majesty and her allies and the Emperor of all the Russias, it is this day ordered by her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, that the Order made by her Majesty in Council, bearing date the 29th day of March, 1854, by which it is directed "that no ships or vessels belonging to any of her Majesty's subjects be permitted to enter and clear out for any of the ports of Russia until further order; and that a general embargo or stop be made of all Russian vessels and ships whatsoever now within, or which shall hereafter come into, any of the ports, harbours, or roads within any of her Majesty's dominions, together with all persons and effects on board the said ships or vessels;" and such parts of any other Orders in Council as prohibit trade with Russia, be henceforth revoked and discharged. And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, and the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

C. C. GREVILLE.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 9th day of April, 1856, present the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council. It is this day ordered by her Majesty in Council, that the prohibitions now subsisting under her Majesty's Royal proclamation of the 18th day of February, 1854, and under divers subsequent orders of Council, on the exportation out of the United Kingdom, or carrying coastwise, of arms, ammunition, gunpowder, saltpetre and brimstone, marine engines and boilers, and the component parts thereof, lead, nitrate of soda, sulphate and muriate of potash, certain descriptions of iron, and other articles mentioned in such proclamation and orders, be, and the said several prohibitions are hereby, taken off. And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, and the Right Honourable Lord Panmure, one of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, are to give the necessary directions herein as to them may respectively appertain.

C. C. GREVILLE.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 1856.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M. 181 feet above sea level.	Thermometer.		Mean Tem- pera- ture of the Day.	Rain in Inches.	Mean Tem- pera- ture of Read at 10 P.M.	Mean amount of Cloud (0-10)	Amount of Ozone, (0-10)
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.			Wet Bulb.	Dew Point.	
April 2	29.585	68.2	41.5	54.0	0.010	48.6	48.1	1 0 0 0
" 3	29.606	53.0	40.8	48.2	0.058	48.8	46.3	7 8 0 0
" 4	29.479	55.0	37.7	45.2	0.088	42.4	42.3	8 6 0 0
" 5	29.393	55.3	32.8	43.8	0.005	42.0	41.1	6 0 0 0
" 6	29.078	56.4	37.8	45.6	0.008	42.7	42.9	8 7 0 0
" 7	29.325	58.2	34.3	44.5	0.053	42.5	42.9	2 6 0 0
" 8	29.119	52.8	40.8	45.5	0.205	44.0	40.0	7 6 0 0
Mean	29.369	57.0	38.0	46.7	0.427	44.4	43.7	5.6 5.6 0 0

The Weather.—Rain fell every day with a brisk wind, a thunderstorm on the 4th, with loud thunder at 11th a.m.

The direction of the wind was—on 2nd E.S.E., becoming S.E. at 11th a.m., E.S.E. at 3rd a.m., S.E. at 6th a.m., S. at 4th p.m., S.S.W. at 10th p.m.; becoming S. at 3rd a.m. on 3rd; changing to W. at 1 a.m. on the 4th; becoming S.W. at 4th a.m., S. at 6th a.m., W.S.W. at 8th a.m., W. at 9th a.m., S.W. at 10th a.m.; W. at 4th p.m., W.S.W. at 8th p.m., S.W. at 10th p.m.; becoming S. at 12th a.m. on the 5th, S.S.E. at 4th a.m., S. at 6th a.m., S.E. at 8th a.m., S. at 11th a.m., S.E. at 12th a.m. on 6th, E. at 3rd a.m., S.E. at 7th a.m., S.E. at 7th a.m., S. at 9th a.m., S.S.W. at 10th a.m., S. at 2th p.m., S.W. at 3th p.m., S.W. at 4th p.m., S. at 5th p.m., S. at 6th p.m.; veering through the S. to W.S.W. at 1th a.m. on 7th, became W. at 2th a.m., W.N.W. at 4th a.m., W. again at 7th a.m., S.W. at 2th p.m., S. at 4th p.m., occasionally veering to S.S.W. and S.E.; became S.E. at 12th a.m. on the 8th, S.S.E. at 2th p.m., moved through the S. to W. at 7th p.m., changed to W.N.W. at 8th p.m., W. at 9th p.m., and W.S.W. at 10th p.m.

E. J. LOWE.

MR. SADLEIR'S FORGERIES.—On Monday afternoon a London solicitor appeared in the Registry-office with a carpet-bag containing a number of deeds, in order that it should be ascertained whether they had been registered in accordance with certificates of registry which he produced. The deeds purported to be conveyances of estates sold in the Encumbered Estates Court to John Sadleir, and the certificates of registry, which were numbered, mentioned books in which the memorials of the deeds were entered. One of the certificates, dated in 1852, bore the signature of the late Mr. Walter Glascock, who died before the establishment of the Encumbered Estates Court. The other certificates purported to be in the handwriting of Mr. Chapman, First Assistant-Registrar, and to be signed by that gentleman. On examination by Mr. Morgan O'Connell, principal of the Registry-office, and his assistants, it was found that no such books were in existence, and that all the deeds but one, and the entire of the certificates, were forgeries. The deeds of conveyance, five in number (some of which contained maps of the properties), bore the signatures of two of the Commissioners—Dr. Longfield and Mr. Hargrave. The forgery of the signature of Mr. Chapman was exceedingly well executed. The deed that was not forged had been originally a conveyance of a small property purchased for £2000, but the amount was changed to £5000; the total amount of the consideration money on the five conveyances was £4400; the sum lent upon those securities was £16,000; the lenders, of course, have been defrauded, like so many others, in the gigantic and unprecedented swindles perpetrated by John Sadleir.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

ANOTHER SUSPECTED CASE OF POISONING IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—Great excitement has prevailed in Lichfield and neighbourhood for some days past in consequence of a rumour that the death of Mrs. Ashmall, the wife of an opulent farmer, living at Ediall, Burntwood, in March last year, was occasioned by poison. She had been married upwards of twelve years, and at her death left three children; the eldest of whom, a daughter, is now about thirteen years of age. Mrs. Ashmall had been in ill health for some time, but notwithstanding there was no natural cause to account for the suddenness with which her death took place. She had not, it is said, been attended by any medical gentleman for some months prior to her death, and consequently no certificate was given as to the cause of death. A few months after her decease Mr. Ashmall married his servant-girl. Last week representations were made to Sir G. Grey both by W. W. Ward, Esq., the coroner, and J. H. Hatton, Esq., chief constable of the county; the result of which was that the body, which had been interred in a brick grave in Burntwood churchyard, was exhumed on the 4th inst. The coffin was removed to one of Mr. Ashmall's barns, some distance from the churchyard (Mr. Ashmall affording every assistance to the authorities in the discharge of their duties). A *post-mortem* examination of the body has been made, but the report has not been published.

EDUCATIONAL TESTIMONIAL.—On Monday week a public meeting took place at the National School-room, Carnarvon, to present Mr. and Mrs. Foster with a suitable testimonial of respect, on their retirement from the duties of master and mistress of the schools. The testimonial consisted of a handsome gold watch, a silver teapot, and a purse containing thirty-four sovereigns: the total amount subscribed being £75. The teapot bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. and Mrs. Foster, from the friends of education in the town of Carnarvon and neighbourhood, upon their retirement from the Carnarvon National Schools, after nineteen years' devotion to their duties of master and mistress, during which period 6000 children were educated by them; besides the normal training of 140 National Schoolmasters by Mr. Foster, whose zealous and successful career gave a great impetus to education in North Wales." March, 1856.

THE SUNDERLAND BOTTLEMAKERS' STRIKE.—This strike still continues, and the masters show no signs of yielding, as the following resolution, passed at a recent meeting, will show:—"The men having refused to work for the wages offered,—viz. 24s., 20s., and 17s.—the employers will not allow them to resume work, except at 20s., 16s., and 13s., per week, for the several departments." The men, in reply, have sent a series of resolutions, adopted at a trade meeting, to their employers; the most important of which is the second:—"That the bottlemakers of the Wear shall now offer their services to the Belgian manufacturers, and henceforth apply to them for employment."

THE BLEACHERS' SHORT-TIME BILL.—The Manchester Commercial Association has sent a petition to Parliament against the Short-time Bill for young persons engaged in bleaching, dyeing, and finishing works, which urges the objection to the measure, that its provisions would extend to the employment of junior clerks in all such establishments after six o'clock in the evening, besides exposing the counting houses in connection with such warehouses to the intrusion of Government inspectors.

BOILER EXPLOSION IN PORTSMOUTH DOCKYARD AND LOSS OF LIFE.—An explosion of a steam-engine boiler in Portsmouth Dockyard occurred on Saturday afternoon, by which four lives were sacrificed and about a dozen persons seriously wounded. The explosion was instantaneous, and carried the roof of the building some fifty feet up in the air. Admiral Martin having set a number of men to work to extricate the injured from the *debris* of the building, three men were taken out quite dead, and six others dreadfully wounded; one of whom has since died, while five or six others are more or less seriously injured. As to the cause of the calamity, from the appearance of the boiler it would seem that it had, before bursting, become red hot.

MURDER IN THE COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON.—Last Tuesday evening, Mrs. Sarah Kelly, hitherto distinguished in the Irish Law Courts as the successful suitor in the case of Kelly v. Thewles, was murdered whilst walking in her grounds with her nephew. Two men, with blackened faces, approached, and, desiring the nephew to stand aside, they shot the unfortunate lady through the head. Her death was instantaneous.

LOSS OF LIFE ON THE CALEDONIAN RAILWAY.—On Monday last a serious accident occurred on the above railway. The mail train started at 5.55 from Carlisle for Glasgow, with seven carriages and the post-office van attached. About three miles from Carlisle the engine-boiler burst, and the driver and stoker were instantaneously killed. A lady and a gentleman were likewise injured, but not seriously. Thomas Musgrave, the engine-driver, leaves a wife, but no children; Isaac Sessford, the stoker, leaves a wife and six children. The engine is a comparatively new one, having been only seven months on the line. Its roof was blown off. The accident cannot yet be accounted for.

SPLENDID METEOR.—A correspondent writes from Harpenden, Herts:—"On Saturday evening last, the 5th instant, at about half-past eight o'clock, I saw from the common in this neighbourhood, in the S.W. part of the heavens, near the planet Saturn, in the constellation Orion, at about 23° elevation, a meteor of great brilliancy. On its explosion I fancied I heard a hissing sound; but in this I may possibly be mistaken. The night was clear. Altogether the appearance did not last many seconds."

PEOPLE'S PARK AT HALIFAX.—A piece of land at Halifax has recently been purchased for a people's park by Frank Crossley, Esq., M.P. for the borough. The land is in a very pleasant situation, near the mansion of Mr. Crossley, and not very far from a number of almshouses now being erected by the hon. gentleman. The park is to be laid out from designs to be furnished by Sir J. Paxton.

PEOPLE'S PARK FOR WOLVERHAMPTON.—A movement has been originated by working men at Wolverhampton for the establishment of a people's park. At a meeting held last week it was determined to establish such a park, and a committee was appointed to carry the scheme into execution.

THE COURT.

The Queen has initiated the gaieties of the present season by holding her first Drawingroom almost before the note of hospitality has been sounded by any members of the aristocracy. This took place on Thursday, on which occasion the attendance was more distinguished than numerous.

The week has been a busy one in Court circles. On the 4th instant his Excellency Count Colloredo, Austrian Minister at St. James's, had an audience to deliver his letters of recall; and the Hon. George Mifflin Dallas, at an interview, presented his credentials as Minister from the United States. At the same Court Lord Leigh was appointed Lord Lieutenant of the county of Warwick, and Sir Lawrence Peel was sworn of her Majesty's Privy Council.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by Prince Arthur and the Princess Helena, visited the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park. In the afternoon her Majesty and his Royal Highness, attended by the Equerries in Waiting, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester-house. The Prince of Wales, and Prince Alfred, attended by Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps and Mr. Gibbs, visited the establishment of Messrs. De La Rue, in Bunhill-row. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Princess Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday, at a Privy Council held by the Queen, an order was issued removing the prohibition of the export of articles to certain foreign ports. At the Court, her Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Francis Earl of Ellesmere to be Lord Lieutenant of the county of Lancaster, the customary oath of office was administered to his Lordship.

The Earl of Caithness has been appointed Lord in Waiting in the room of Lord Listowel, deceased.

Colonel and Lady Rosa Greville have taken the moiety of the magnificent mansion at Albert-gate so long known as "Gibraltar." The other half has been converted into a banking-house.

HER MAJESTY'S DRAWINGROOM—COURT DRESSES.

SINCE a certain richness of apparel and profusion of trimming are now the rule, even in ordinary toilets, her Majesty's Drawingroom on the 10th inst. afforded, as may be supposed, ample scope for a display of gorgeous costumes. Yet even at the present day a certain refined elegance often contrasts favourably with the more showy style, as



THE LONDON SEASON.—GOING TO THE DRAWING ROOM.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



17TH LANCERS.

ROYAL HORSE GUARDS BLUE.

1ST LIFE GUARDS.

16TH LANCERS.

3RD LIGHT DRAGOONS.

6TH DRAGOON GUARDS.
ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

2ND DRAGOONS.

NEW UNIFORMS OF THE BRITISH CAVALRY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

THE NEW CAVALRY COSTUME.

DURING the last few years we have witnessed several changes in the habiliments of our gallant soldiers—changes which have not always secured public admiration on the score of taste, however desirable they may have been in other respects. Next month that most brilliant arm of the service, the Cavalry, is to appear in new regiments, the general effect of which may be seen upon the illustration upon the preceding page. The principal alteration is in the substitution of the German frock for the coatee. Henceforth our stalwart Dragoons will wear a dress more in harmony with that of civilians; while in the disuse of epaulettes, which is another distinctive feature, the officers, if they lose one of the symbols of their rank, will also be saved the cost of an expensive and not very handsome distinction. Gold lace, however, will not be dispensed with, as the Light Cavalry, with the exception of the Lancers, will wear five stripes of lace across the breast, as shown in the dress of the 3rd Light Dragoons. In the Royal Horse Artillery the jacket is retained, but is longer and looser than hitherto.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH AUSTRALIA.—The Earl of HARDWICK called attention to the state of postal communication between England and the Australian Colonies, and asked if there was any objection to lay on the table the memorial from the Colonies on the subject? —The Duke of ARGYLL admitted the necessity of re-establishing the communication between this country and Australia; tenders for that purpose were now under the consideration of the Government; but before any route was adopted there must be a general assent of the Colonies to the plan, as they were to bear a large share of the expense.

THE CURRENCY.

The Earl of EGLINTON, in directing the notice of the Government to the expediency of issuing a Royal Commission to inquire into the laws regulating the currency of the United Kingdom, described the regulations and working of the present Bank Act, and stated that he objected to the shortness of the term for which the directors held office, and to the decisions of the body which affected the affairs of the whole country being made by a mere majority of them; he thought there ought to be a Government control, which worked well in the Bank of France. He approved the principle of the Act of 1844, particularly the separation of the two departments of the Bank; he approved also an issue of notes besides the portion issued on bullion; but objected to fixing a limit beyond which nothing could be done; he advocated an issue of £1 notes.

The Earl of HARROWBY repeated the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the House of Commons, that the Government did not contemplate any change in the Bank Act; but that, if any noble Lord pressed for an inquiry into it, the Government would not throw any obstacle in the way.

The Earl of EGLINTON had hoped for a more satisfactory answer.

The Earl of DERBY wished to know what was the intention of the Government with regard to any inquiry at all. When was the proper time, and what was to be the mode?

The Duke of ARGYLL said if a Royal Commission were issued it would imply that the Government was dissatisfied with the present state of things. The Government had arrived at no such conclusion.

Earl GREY thought this was the proper time if there was to be any inquiry.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

BILLETING OF SOLDIERS.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. COWAN moved a resolution that the practice of billeting soldiers in Scotland upon private families is injurious to the comfort and discipline of the men, as well as oppressive to the people, and that it is the duty of the Government to take means to abolish the grievance.

The motion was seconded by Sir A. AGNEW.

After a few words from Mr. BAXTER in support of the motion,

Mr. F. PEEL observed that the termination of the war would put an end to the grievance complained of. The pressure, which had been undoubted, arose, he said, in consequence of the Militia having been embodied, the Government being under the necessity of placing the embodied Militia in the towns of the respective counties during the time arrangements were making for removing them out of billet. He opposed the motion.

Sir J. FERGUSON, Mr. Ewart, and Mr. J. M'GREGOR having spoken in support of it,

Mr. ELLIICE cautioned the House against encouraging complaints of these little grievances until informed by the Government on what principle the whole system of lodging our military force was to be permanently established.

Lord PALMERSTON said he was ready to admit that it was undesirable, both with regard to the discipline of the troops and the feelings of morality on the part of the community, that soldiers should be quartered otherwise than in barracks or camps; but barracks could not be erected for the wants of the service without great expense and much consideration as to the localities. The grievance complained of was of long standing, and the system could not be altered without an alteration of the Mutiny Act, which could not take place before next year. It was, he assured the House, the earnest desire of the Government to diminish the grievance as much as possible; and, if the matter were left in their hands, they would feel it their duty to consider what arrangements could be made to remedy the grievance which they did not deny.

The resolution was supported by Mr. Duncan, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Laing, Mr. Craufurd, Mr. Spooner, and Mr. Alexander Haste; and opposed by the Lord Advocate, Lord Ebrington, and Sir G. Grey, who hoped the House would not adopt a hasty resolution.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the House must see that the question resolved itself into one of finance. He trusted, after the assurance given by Lord Palmerston, that the House would not agree to an abstract resolution.

Mr. DISRAELI observed that the resolution, although an abstract one, would not be barren of results. It did not bind the Government to anything but what was their duty—namely, to devise a remedy for an admitted grievance.

After some further discussion, in the course of which Lord PALMERSTON repeated that the Government were ready to consider what measures could be adopted for providing accommodation for the troops that would relieve householders in Scotland from this grievance, the House divided, when the resolution was carried (against the Government) by 139 to 116.

Lord PALMERSTON moved that the House do immediately resolve itself into Committee of Supply, which was agreed to after a few sarcastic remarks by Mr. DISRAELI upon the lesson which the Government had just received. The House, accordingly, in Committee resumed the consideration of the Civil Service Estimates, and various votes were agreed to, after discussion.

The report of the Committee of Supply was brought up and agreed to.

The Draughts on Bankers Bill and the Factories Bill were committed *pro forma*.

The Public Works Bill and the Public Works (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee.

Lord ELCHO moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the medical profession, describing its principal features. Leave was given, after some remarks by Mr. CRAUFURD and Mr. COWPER.

Mr. LOWE obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of Partnership.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Agricultural Statistics Bill was read a third time and passed, after some miscellaneous conversation.

INDIAN FINANCE.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved for some returns relating to the expense of the Indian army, and entered into an analysis of the financial position of our Oriental empire. He enforced the necessity of investigating and remodelling the system of finance in that section of the British dominions—The Earl of HARROWBY and the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH having offered some remarks upon the question of Indian government, the returns were ordered to be laid on the table.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Sir W. CLAY intimated his intention to introduce the amendments, suggested by the Government in his bill for the abolition of Church-rates.

Mr. WHITESIDE deferred the discussion of his motion respecting the siege and surrender of Kara to Thursday, the 24th inst.

CRIMEAN MEDALS.—Mr. F. PEEL, in reply to Major Sibthorp, said that a number of Crimean medals, prepared by the French Government for English soldiers who had been engaged in the war, had already arrived and had been distributed according to the intentions of the Emperor. He had heard, but could not authenticate, the report that similar medals for the decoration of British soldiers were being struck off in Turkey by order of the Sultan.

INCOME AND PROPERTY TAX.

Mr. MUNTZ, pursuant to notice, moved a resolution setting forth that "an equitable adjustment of the income and property tax is essential to the interests of the country, particularly as regards the rates of payment upon industrial and professional incomes, compared with those derived from fixed property." In supporting his motion the hon. member briefly commented upon the unfairness of the existing system, which levied the same rate of impost upon incomes of every description. The injustice now perpetrated was, he contended, so gross and glaring that it demanded the most strenuous efforts to provide a remedy.

The motion was seconded by Mr. POLLARD URQUHART.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, while recognising the importance of the subject, enlarged upon the difficulties and intricacies which, in his

opinion, rendered every attempt to adjust the impost in question either abortive or dangerous. The alternative lay between the present system and a mere property-tax. According to the principle now followed, and of which he expressed his preference, the ability of every individual to pay a tax for the year was estimated by his income for the year. The State afforded protection for the twelvemonth, and was justified in exacting a corresponding revenue. It was impossible, moreover, to make taxation prospective, and levy a duty on future instead of present incomes. Any advantage enjoyed by the owners of realised property through the incidence of the income had, he observed, been sufficiently compensated by the recent imposition of the succession-duty. He concluded by moving the previous question.

Mr. LAING felt obliged to vote against the resolution, considering that no abstract proposition should be affirmed by the House calculated to diminish the public revenue, unless accompanied by some suggestion for replacing the deficiency.

Mr. WILLIAMS added a few remarks upon the same topic.

Mr. SPOONER defended the present system, remarking that, if the owner of landed property enjoyed some special advantages, he was also subjected to special burdens.

After a few words from Mr. Mackie, Mr. J. M'Gregor, and Sir H. Willoughby, Mr. MUNTZ replied, and the House divided—for the resolution, 63; against it, 194: majority, 131.

EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.—The LORD ADVOCATE moved for leave to bring in two bills to regulate and make better provision for parochial schools in Scotland, and for extending the means of education in Scottish burghs. In explaining the provisions of the measure the hon. and learned Lord stated that it differed from the bill introduced last year, in that it was now proposed to leave the management of the schools, as at present, under the control of the ministers and presbytery. He intended, however, to abolish the power of the presbytery to try offences among the schoolmasters, as well as to effect considerable relaxation on the subject of tests. A regular system of inspection by inspectors nominated by the Government was also to be established, comprehending the whole series of parochial schools. By these and other reforms in matters of detail he hoped to accomplish a beneficial improvement and extension of the means of public education in Scotland.—Some remarks upon the organisation of the school system as now existing in Scotland were offered by Mr. Baxter, Mr. A. Black, Mr. Mackie, Sir A. Agnew, Mr. Blackburn, and Mr. Stirling.

LOCAL CHARGES UPON SHIPPING.

On the motion for nominating the Select Committee on the Local Charges upon Shipping.

Mr. V. SCULLY denounced, with much warmth, the habitual, not to say systematic, exclusion of Irish members from committees and other public positions calculated to give them due weight in the House, and enabled them to protect the local interests of Ireland.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER denied all intention on the part of the Government to disparage the Irish representatives, and on the present question proposed to enlarge the Select Committee by the addition of two members from the sister island.

Mr. DISRAELI deprecated the revival of the old and long-extinguished feuds between different sections of the United Kingdom.

Lord PALMERSTON submitted that the Committee were to exercise no judicial functions, but merely to ascertain facts, for which duty he considered its members were amply qualified.

The discussion was pushed at much length, and with considerable warmth, by various hon. members. Mr. F. SCULLY reopened the Irish point of the controversy; and Mr. LABOUCHERE defended the present selection of the Committee. The House at last divided upon the motion for adjourning the debate, which was negatived by a majority of 108 to 67-41. The Committee was then nominated.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS.—Mr. BOWTYER called the attention of the House to the constitution of the Board of Audit, and the defects of the law regarding the audit of the public accounts. Some conversation on the subject followed, which ended in nothing.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

THE OATH OF ABJURATION BILL.

Mr. M. GIBSON moved the second reading of the bill for abolishing the oath of abjuration and the assurance which accompanied it. The measure, he said, was practically the same as that introduced in a previous Session by Lord Lyndhurst in the House of Peers, and was simply designed to efface from the statute-book a formula whose purpose had become obsolete, whose history was far from creditable, and which had, in point of fact, to a great extent fallen into desuetude.

Sir F. THESIGER moved as an amendment that the bill should be read a second time that day six months.

The LORD ADVOCATE contended that the abolition of the oath of abjuration was merely a logical corollary from the Catholic Emancipation Act.

Mr. NAPIER, in supporting the amendment, urged that the unavoidable result of the present bill would be to leave both the Protestant succession and the Christian religion open questions. So long as England remained a Christian State it was essential to maintain Christianity as the distinctive characteristic of the Legislature who ruled the State.

Lord J. RUSSELL said the real controversy turned upon the admissibility of a Jew to Parliament, and on this point he contended the decision should be guided by the maxim that political functions ought not to depend upon religious faith. The principle had been fully conceded in the case, first of Protestant Dissenters, and afterwards of the Roman Catholics, and could not now be repudiated with regard to the Jews.

Mr. WALPOLE reiterated and enforced the arguments; defending, on religious grounds, the maintenance of the oath of abjuration.

Lord PALMERSTON briefly intimated his hearty concurrence with the measure before the House. It was, he thought, most desirable finally to obliterate a restriction which was wholly discordant with the spirit of the times.

Mr. DISRAELI declared his intention to vote for the second reading of the bill, but should propose in Committee to substitute another formula, adapted to the present position of the country and the reigning family. In this oath, Mr. Disraeli added, he designed to retain the words, "on the true faith of a Christian;" but, at the same time, to provide a clause relieving members of the Jewish faith from the necessity of taking it.

Mr. NEWDEGATE, amidst many expressions of impatience from hon. members, supported the amendment.

The House then divided:—For the second reading, 230; for the amendment, 195: majority in favour of the bill, 35.

The bill was then read a second time.

The Dissenters' Marriages Bill was committed *pro forma*.

The Trial of Offences Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ST. JAMES'S-PARK.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE called attention to the report of a Committee of the House of Commons upon the subject of St. James's-park, and took occasion to condemn many of the proposed alterations, particularly the removal of the Duke of York's Column, which would be disrespectful to the memory of that illustrious individual, and would materially affect the value of the houses in Carlton House-terrace and other places in the neighbourhood. If any public advantage were to be gained by those alterations, which he doubted, they would be infinitesimal, while the expense of carrying them out would be enormous.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said the proposed alterations were of so grave a character as to demand the most serious attention of the Government before they were adopted. He could assure their Lordships that the Government had not as yet come to any determination upon the subject.—The Earl of ABERDEEN expressed his gratification at hearing that the Government had not come to any determination upon this subject, and condemned many of the alterations proposed.—The Earl of MALMESBURY deprecated any such alterations in St. James's-park, and believed that the public were opposed to it.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE approved of the recommendation to remove the buildings in the neighbourhood of King-street, but was opposed to almost all the recommendations in the report.—After some further discussion the subject dropped.

THE CAVALRY HORSES IN THE CRIMEA.—Lord PANMURE, in reply to the Earl of Malmesbury, said that the Government had made a calculation as to the expense of bringing back the cavalry horses to England, and it was found that the cost would amount to £6 or £7 for each horse. Under those circumstances they thought it would be much more economical to sell the inferior horses that were abroad, and only to bring home the superior ones.

THE ANNEXATION OF OUDE.—The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked what course was pursued by the Court of Directors of the East India Company with reference to the treaty concluded by the Governor-General India with the King of Oude in 1837. He wished particularly to know whether the Government admitted the authenticity of that treaty?—The Duke of ARGYLL said though that treaty was ratified abroad it was not ratified at home. He deprecated any discussion upon this subject until the late Governor-General of India, Lord Dalhousie, was in his place in that House, which he expected would very soon be the case.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH and Lord BROUGHTON severally expressed an opinion that there was a ratification of the treaty.—After some further conversation the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. NISBETT took the oaths and his seat for Chippenham. The hon. gentleman was introduced by Mr. Sootheron and Colonel Boilero.

Mr. L. DILLWYN gave notice that on the 17th inst. he should move an address to her Majesty, praying that henceforth public executions may be abolished, and that executions may take place within the walls of prisons.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Ewart, said he was quite aware that the internal regulations of Russia restricting commerce were extremely unfavourable to commercial transactions, and a grievance to foreigners. Her Majesty's Government would naturally like to take any opportunity that might present itself of impressing upon the Russian Government the expediency, for their own self-interest, of establishing a more liberal

system of commerce within the Russian dominions. He was sure that the House would feel that the present was not a convenient time to raise this question, which the Russian Government would identify with the terms of peace. The matter should not escape the attention of her Majesty's Government.

EDUCATION.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved that the House do go into Committee for the purpose of considering the following resolutions:

1. That, in the opinion of this House, it is expedient to extend, revise, and consolidate the minutes of the Committee of Privy Council on Education.
2. That it is expedient to add to the present inspectors of Church schools eighty sub-inspectors, and to divide England and Wales into eighty divisions for the purposes of education.
3. That it is expedient to appoint sub-inspectors of British, Wesleyan, and other Protestant schools not connected with the Church, and also of Roman Catholic schools, according to the present proportions of inspectors of such schools to the inspectors of Church schools.
4. That, on the report of the inspectors and sub-inspectors, the Committee of the Privy Council should have power to form in each division school districts, consisting of single or united parishes, or parts of parishes.
5. That the sub-inspectors of schools of each division should be instructed to report on the available means for the education of the poor in each school district.
6. That, for the purpose of extending such means, it is expedient that the powers at present possessed by the Commissioners of Charitable Trusts be enlarged, and that funds now useless or injurious to the community be applied to the education of the middle and poorer classes of the community.
7. That it is expedient that, in any school district where the means of education, arising from endowment, subscription, grants, and school-pence, shall be found deficient, and shall be declared to be so by the Committee of Privy Council for Education, the ratepayers should have the power of taxing themselves for the erection and maintenance of a school or schools.
8. That, after the 1st day of January, 1858, when any school district shall have been declared to be deficient in adequate means for the education of the poor, the quarter sessions of the peace for the county, city, or borough, should have power to impose a school-rate.
9. That, where a school-rate is imposed, a school-committee, elected by the ratepayers, should appoint the schoolmasters and mistresses, and make regulations for the management of the schools.
10. That, in every school supported in whole or in part by rates, a portion of the Holy Scriptures should be read daily in the school, and such other provision should be made for religious instruction as the school committee may think fit, but that no child should be compelled to receive any religious instruction, or attend any religious worship, to which his or her parents or guardians shall on conscientious grounds object.
11. That employers of children and young persons between nine and fifteen years of age should be required to furnish certificates half-yearly of the attendance of such children and young persons at school, and to pay for such instruction.
12. That it is expedient that every encouragement should be given, by prizes, by diminution of school fees, by libraries, by evening schools, and other methods, to the instruction of young persons between twelve and fifteen years of age.

The noble Lord remarked

MUSIC.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE is nearly restored to its pristine splendour and beauty. The box-office is open; Mr. Nugent and his staff are busy at their posts; and everything "gives note of preparation" for the approaching campaign. Respecting the engagements of performers, &c., nothing trustworthy has yet transpired—some gossiping paragraphs in the daily papers being unworthy of credit; but Mr. Lumley's announcement of the season is, we understand, on the eve of being issued.

It is now announced that the Lyceum will open, as the theatre of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA this season, on Tuesday next, the 15th of this month, with "*Il Trovatore*," cast in the same strong manner as last year. As it is necessary, of course, that the number of the orchestra be reduced so as to suit the small size of the theatre, M. Gye intends, besides employing all its members in alternate relays, to enable them to earn their full salaries by performing at twelve Concerts to be given during the season at the Crystal Palace, supported by all the vocal strength of the establishment. To this arrangement, it is said, some of the band demurred at first, but it has now been assented to by all the parties concerned.

Mr. Gye and Mr. Anderson have been publishing controversial letters arising out of the destruction of Covent-garden Theatre. With their personal squabbles the public have little or nothing to do; but they have something to do with a long address placarded by Mr. Anderson, on the walls of the Lyceum and other buildings, purporting to be a defence against the charge that he had degraded Covent-garden Theatre. In this production there is a passage which demands both notice and censure:—"With the morality of a masked ball," says Mr. Anderson, "I had nothing to do. I did that which M. Jullien, for Mr. Gye, had done before me—that which they do in Italy—that which they do in Paris." Against this doctrine we would most strongly protest. What a manager of a theatre has nothing to do with the morality of the entertainments given by him within its walls? Nothing to do with the contamination, the destruction, spread by the moral poison—a thousand times worse than arsenic or prussic acid—which he vends for his own sordid profit? Theatrical managers certainly have often acted according to this unprincipled principle, but we do not remember ever to have heard it so barefacedly propounded before. The appeal to the example of M. Jullien or Mr. Gye would be no justification, even were it founded in fact; but it is not. We do not approve of masked balls; however guardedly conducted they are liable to grave objections. But no comparison is to be made between any of Jullien's masked balls and the prodigal and disgusting orgie that was polluting Covent-garden Theatre while the destroying flames were about to burst forth above the heads of the revellers. Every account concurred in describing it as a scene which has been hitherto unprecedented, and which, we trust, will never be repeated in England. It really sounds something like a joke to appeal for justification to "that which they do in Italy, and which they do in Paris!"

THE CONCERT OF THE AMATEUR MUSICAL SOCIETY on Monday evening was the most brilliant and successful performance they have ever given. The Hanover-square rooms were full to overflowing, many persons being obliged to content themselves with seats in the ante-room; and this crowded assembly consisted of the most fashionable company in London. The orchestra, under the able discipline of their present conductor, Mr. Henry Leslie, are making wonderful progress. Their performance of Beethoven's first symphony in C Major, would have done no discredit to our best professional bands. The selection of the music was excellent. The greatest interest was excited by a new scene, entitled "*Jephtha's Daughter*," composed by Mr. Leslie, and sung, for the first time, by Miss Dolby. Though exposed to the severe ordeal of being upon a subject already treated by Handel, yet it bore the trial well, and did great honour to the author's genius. Much interest was also created by the vocal début of Miss Sherrington, a young English lady, educated, we understand, at the Conservatoire of Brussels. Her voice is such as is rarely met with—a soprano of the finest quality, reaching from the depths of the contralto to the highest regions of the scale. On Monday she sang in the ultra-florid style of Madame Cabel or Madame Gassier, and her execution was brilliant in the highest degree. Her reception was quite enthusiastic. Several old English madrigals and unaccompanied part-songs were sung by the amateur choir of ladies and gentlemen formed by Mr. Leslie, whose performance is not in any respect inferior to the best German choral singing.

Professor STERNDALE BENNETT, of the University of Cambridge, commenced on Tuesday evening, at the Hanover-square rooms, his annual series of concerts of classical pianoforte music. These performances have been long established, and their character is well known. This concert was as elegant and refined as usual. It consisted of several fine solo and concerted pianoforte pieces of Mozart, Beethoven, and Mr. Bennett himself, performed by him with the assistance of Messrs. Salomon, Nicholson, Williams, Baumann, and C. Harper. Several vocal pieces of a high order were sung by Madame Clara Novello. The room was crowded to the doors.

A CONCERT was given at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday evening, in aid of the funds for rebuilding Queen Charlotte's Hospital, at Linson-grove. It was patronised by a long list of royal and aristocratic ladies (with her Majesty at their head), and produced an ample receipt. The music was exceedingly good. The band consisted of the members of the Orchestral Union, directed by Mr. Mellon; Mr. Benedict presided at the pianoforte; and Madame Clara Novello, Madame Gassier, Miss Lascelles, Mr. Swift, Mr. Sinton, and Mr. Kiallmark were the vocal and instrumental performers.

MR. HOLMES, the eminent pianist and teacher of his instrument, gave the first of his annual series of concerts at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Wednesday morning. The programme contained an interesting selection of music, and several of Mr. Holmes's pupils—especially Miss Janet Lindsay and Mr. Hammond—distinguished themselves, and did honour to their instructor by their admirable performances.

MR. WALTER MACFARREN has likewise commenced a series of classical concerts. The first was given at the Beethoven Rooms on Monday evening, when he played a selection from the pianoforte compositions of Handel, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Sterndale Bennett, as well as some excellent compositions of his own. As a pianist Mr. Macfarren is to be praised for his strength, energy, and artistic feeling; as a composer he is entitled to equally high praise. His Sonatas for the piano and violin produced much effect: it is melodic, skilfully constructed, and well written for both instruments. He also played two smaller pieces, a Romance and a Caprice, which were exceedingly graceful. He was assisted by Mrs. John Macfarren in a pianoforte duet of Mendelssohn, which was most brilliantly executed. Several vocal pieces were given by Miss Dolby. There was a large and fashionable audience.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ADELPHI.—A new piece, evidently derived from the French drama, "*Thérèse*," by MM. Bayard and Arthur de Beauplan, was produced here on Wednesday, in a translation by Messrs. Langford and Sorrell. It is in two acts, and entitled "Like and Unlike." As the title may suggest, the interest is derived from the incident of personal resemblance, and consequent mistaken identity. Madame Celeste performs the two characters; and the plot is carefully contrived to prevent their meeting until the last act, when some clever stage deception is interposed to induce the spectator to believe that they are both on the scene together. The skill with which this is contrived constitutes a great part of the merit of dramas built on this now almost worn-out basis. Perhaps the present is the most elegant of all the pieces of its class. The "like" and "unlike" are two sisters of equivocal parentage; the one an operatic actress, and the other an industrious sempstress of Paris. The latter, named *Lisette*, is beloved by a Yorkshire gentleman on a visit to that gay capital—*Harry Mowbray*, Esq. (Mr. Benjamin Webster). This circumstance at first alarms his friends, who seek to dissuade him from the step; but, on becoming acquainted with the object of his attachment, they are so convinced of her innocence that they are willingly converted to his opinions. But a new perplexity arises. A Manchester man, by name *Mr. Peter Potter*, and grotesquely impersonated by Mr. Wright, rushes in, and charges *Mr. Mowbray* with having run away with an opera-dancer, on whom he had expended a fortune, but who had left her lodgings, and on whose chimney-glasses and mirrors he had accordingly taken summary vengeance. To satisfy this infuriate person *Lisette* is summoned from her private chamber, and is immediately identified by *Potter* and a *Mr. Arthur Leslie* (Mr. Selby)—a concealed dandy—as the heroine of the ballet. *Mr. Mowbray* is in agony; he believes that he has been imposed upon; that *Lisette's* simplicity is only consummate acting; nevertheless he challenges her. *Potter*, meanwhile, rudely tears the bridal wreath from her brows, and the curtain falls upon an expressive and impressive tableau. The second act opens on a fashionable drawing-room prepared for a bal-masqué, given by Madame Ventadour (Miss Wyndham), and among her guests are the Count,

and Countess Kremowski, the latter *Lisette's* double, now married to a German aristocrat (Mr. Paul Bedford). Of course, it is necessary that on this scene all parties should be brought together; and here, accordingly, we meet again with *Leslie*, *Potter*, *Lisette*, and poor *Mowbray*. The latter appears the picture of despair, and the various situations in which he partakes are most pathetically rendered by Mr. Webster. Nothing, indeed, can be finer than his acting in the greater passages. His interview with *Lisette* was distinguished by true passion that went to the heart, and lent to the dialogue an earnestness that compensated for the want of poetic force in the diction. The lover is assured, but the last trial awaits him. His friends—the very foof' man himself—all combine in declaring *Lisette* to be only the Countess in masquerade, and, when the real Countess does appear, *Mowbray* is so excited that he draws on her husband, and accidentally wounds the wife. The lady is withdrawn to a couch at the back of the scene, where she is concealed from view by the groups that surround her, and thus an opportunity is given for Madame Celeste to effect a change of costume, and appear at another part of the stage as *Lisette*, to the astonishment of all spectators. The mystery is then speedily cleared up, and the orange-wreath is again placed on the head of the now happy bride. The plot of this interesting drama much resembles that of the tragedy of "*Valeria*," in which Madame Rachel performs two similar roles, but the positions are reversed. It is not the rich Empress (or Countess) whose reputation is thus saved, but the poor sempstress—the innocent member of a suspected class. The acting of Madame Celeste in both parts was of the highest excellence. Nor were the other characters indifferently supported. Mr. Wright as the excited Manchester beau was extremely rich; Mr. Bedford as the German noble, suspicious but infatuated, was ponderous and amusing; and Mr. Selby as the pleasure-seeking dandy was as lively as he was frivolous. There was also a grave personage performed by Mr. Garden, Sir Andrew Redgrave, *Mowbray's* guardian, in which the carriage of an old English gentleman was consistently maintained. The scenery and appointments were really brilliant, and the success of the piece was unequivocal.

MARYLEBONE.—The starring system commenced at this theatre on Monday, when Mr. Charles Mathews made his first appearance there, in two favourite pieces—"Used Up" and "The Practical Man." He was warmly received, and acted with a vivacity that was well appreciated by a numerous audience.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Miss Cushman made her first appearance on Monday, in the part which she has so distinctly made her own—*Meg Merrilies*. That she embodies the author's ideas has never been pretended; she has, however, substituted for it a melodramatic conception at once startling, powerful, and pathetic. The house was respectably attended.

STANDARD.—On Tuesday the tragedy of "Antony and Cleopatra" was again revived, and performed by Miss Glyn and Mr. Marston. Both acted with their usual excellence; and the whole getting-up of the piece does credit to the enterprising manager, whose efforts for the theatrical education of the population of the East deserve public encouragement.

PARISIAN AUTOMATA.—Some extraordinary mechanical figures, originally exhibited at the Paris Exposition are now to be seen at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, and are well deserving of public attention. The figures are of life-size, and the majority of them are covered with the skins of the animals they represent. The interior of these skins is occupied with machinery which operates so as to produce the motions and sounds proper to the living animal. Among the animals are a French hare, a goat, a baboon playing on a banjo, a chimpanzee with a violin, a rabbit employed with a cabbage, a ram, and a sheep with two lambs. The action and tones of these animals are strictly natural, and the results are so nicely adjusted as to produce minute imitations exceedingly noteworthy. In addition to these are two waltzers, boy and girl, and a baby that cries "mamma" and "papa." Undoubtedly the exhibition is very interesting.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE principal racing event since our last has been the successful appeal which *Skytter*, another of the young Birdcatchers (who are "i' the vein" just now), and numbering about the one hundred and forty-first winner by the old Irish chestnut, made at Thirsk, against the Catterick running with Matilda. It can only be accounted for by the fact of *Skytter* having had nine days' more preparation, as there is not a man on the turf who runs his horses so completely on the square as Mr. Morris, and it was evident to all that Matilda was "fit," and that *Baham* did his utmost to win. Glenarn, the dam of *Peter Flat*, is dead, and Kingston's subscription is full; and *Silkmore*, the first of the Cosacks, appeared at the Doncaster Meeting, but did not show in front. We are glad to find that Mr. Stirling Craufurd has engaged that very deserving young jockey, George Oates, to ride for him this season; and, seeing that three two-year-olds in this stud averaged considerably upwards of a thousand guineas a piece in their yearling days, he will have no ordinary responsibility in the "white and black cap." The idea which the leading sporting journal has been urging on them for some time past has at length been taken up by the Jockey Club; and they are about to recommend that 8 st. 12 lb., and not 8 st. 7 lbs., should be the "raising point" in all handicaps where there are twenty subscribers and upwards. It is a sad pity that when they are legislating on a point so vitally important to senior jockeys they do not do the thing really well at once.

The Durham Meeting is fixed for Monday and Tuesday, and will show a fair amount of sport. Some of its entries are hardly what we could have wished to see, but still the Newmarket Craven Meeting list has been not a little strengthened. If we remember rightly, the Stowley-Mill Plate has been saved from the wreck of the defunct Second Spring, doubled in value, and removed to the Craven Monday; and we have heard a whisper that Verdant Green will make his maiden appearance for it. Yellow Jack, Thames Ditton, and Flyaway are in the Sale Stakes on Tuesday; and, if Capucine (7 st. 5 lb.) has her Yorkshire Oaks speed still on her, she will be handy for the Burwell Stakes. Fly-by-Night (5 lb. allowed) is in The Column, on Wednesday, with West Australian's untried sister, Victoria, and we should rather fancy that the latter will go for it. Rifleman and Habena look like competitors for the Claret over the D.I. on Thursday; but as the former has just left Warrener's hands for William Day's, and has the Great Northern Handicap in view, the mare seems the more dangerous of the two. The Newmarket Handicap will depend much on the Epsom running; but Lord Alfred, 7st. 7lb., is not badly in, and well suited to the trying course. On Friday Fundango has really nothing to meet for the Port, where Oulston ought to save his stake either by arrangement, or in the race.

A correspondent, whose communication we are unable to use at length, sends us a very animated account of the recent four-day meeting at Schumla, where the fund and stakes together amounted to about £600. The venue was laid in a lovely natural amphitheatre among the hills; the two-mile course, of which 1½ miles was straight, was marked out by a double row of flags. The English standard waved from the top of the winning-chair; both betting ring and grand stand were all roped in *a-la-mode*; and there were champagne hampers, marques, and betting in plenty. Among the principal operators in the ring was the General in command (Watt), who backed the "greys against the bays," and lost. The crowd consisted of English officers and a few ladies on horseback, and others in two or three pair horse arabs, intermixed with the "every varying array" of Bashi-boozouks, Arabs, Bulgarians, and Turks; the latter of whom principally sat and enjoyed "pipes and pease" in front of the stand. Silk jackets and caps of every hue were donned for the occasion; but perhaps the most interesting struggle was that between twelve Bashi-boozouks. An Arnout, with his picturesque petticoat flying in the breeze, made all the running, and won by a length, with the others close up in the ruck, and was more than usually demonstrative when his ten sovereign prize was paid over to him. Let Englishmen go where they may they will have their cricket and their horse-racing, and they generally succeed in inoculating others with its love.

The sale of the twenty-nine Heythrop horses is fixed for Monday next at Tattersall's, and Lord Hopetoun's horses are advertised for the next week. It is hoped that Lord Althorp will become the new master of the Pytcheley; and we may thus see the good old days—when they were in the family before, and "Dick Knight" was their presiding genius—restored in all their grandeur. Although they have been short of foxes they have had some eight or nine magnificent runs; and Charles Payne's fine riding, and unvarying civility when he has had his large fields to manage with little aid from the late noble master, have been as proverbial as ever. We hear that a subscription, which already reaches £300, has been set on foot for a testimonial to Will Goodall, the huntsman of the Belvoir hounds, who will, no doubt, like Will Long, make a speech at the "dinner meet" quite as musical and touching as his wile hollow. Will Staples, Dick Burton, Philip Payne, Will Long, Will Derry, &c., are all time-honoured names among the lovers of the "noble science;" but we doubt whether any of them ever had quite that dash of enthusiasm and love of the saddle which distinguishes Old Goosy's untiring successor. Mr. Lucy, as we hinted some time back, has consented to take the Warwickshire hounds, on having £1900 guaranteed him; and it is said that the Worcesterhshire will cut off a whip for the future. The Quorn

hounds were sold on Friday last, and Lord Stamford and Mr. Arkwright (the master of the Oakley) were among the purchasers. We heard that they made above £2000, and that his Lordship gave a very long price for one of the lots.

The steeplechases for the ensuing week are Northumberland (Rothbury), on Thursday; and Howden and the Hambledon Hunt, on Friday. Robert Coombes, the well-known rower, who had to resign his laurels to his junior, Cole, on his last trial for the championship, died last week, aged forty-eight; but he has left many rowing pupils, both on the Thames and at the Universities, to keep him fresh for many a long year in our memories. Little has been done either in yachting or boating as yet; but Cannon defeated Watkin in a most desperately contested £60 rowing-match last Tuesday.

CROXTON-PARK RACES.—TUESDAY.

Scurry Stakes.—Ceres, 1. Twin Shon Catti, 2. Belvoir Castle Stakes.—Tug o' War, 1. Prince of Orange, 2. Granby Handicap.—Fact, 1. Shoreham, 2. Two-year-old Stakes.—Saunterer, 1. Touchstone colt, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Farmers' Handicap.—Gingle mare, 1. The Novice, 2. The Cup of 50 sovereigns.—Wantage, 1. Shoreham, 2. Billesdon Coplow Stakes.—Evington Lass, 1. Whip-poor-Will, 2. Croxton Park Plate.—Fact, 1. Shoreham, 2.

EPSOM RACES.—THURSDAY.

Railway Plate.—Jane Shore, 1. Hartley Buck, 2. Great Metropolitan—Cannobie, 1. Winkfield, 2. City and Suburban Handicap.—Hospitality, 1. Fisherman, 2. Two-Year-Old Stakes.—Apathy, 1. Tinwald, 2. Inkerman Plate.—Flacrow, 1. King of Trumps, 2.

PATENT BOTTLE ENVELOPE.—This improvement consists in providing for bottles an envelope of rushes, which are neatly confined by string to the form of the bottle. It will, doubtless, prove of great advantage in packing wine, spirits, liqueurs, &c. It is neat in appearance, clean in use, saves time and space in packing, prevents breakage, and saves trouble and litter in unpacking and binning. The envelope is reusable, and is, consequently, economical, though its first cost is greater than straw. It may also be used for cooling wines, as the bottle and envelope may be immersed in water, when the rush will retain the moisture for some time.

THE London and County Bank have announced that Messrs. Philip Patten, Blyth, J. C. Ewart, M.P., and William Lee, M.P., have been elected directors of that establishment.

THE SIBTHORP COLLECTION.

THE sale of this varied and pleasing Collection commenced on Wednesday. It comprises bronzes; cabinets richly inlaid—one from the Beral Collection; a goodly number of clocks of various sizes; a large clock-watch said to have belonged to the Emperor Napoleon I.; ivory tankards, two or three of them exquisitely carved; groups of figures in marble and alabaster; china of Dresden, Chelsea, Worcester, and other manufacture; Raphael and Palissy ware, Limoges enamels, terra-cottas; carvings in wood, one a frame surrounding a portrait of Charles II., very beautiful in its execution; silver tankards, Cologne ware, &c. We have selected a Group which will give some idea of the more interesting articles. In the centre is a crystal cup, fitted into a silver frame and stand; the handles are surmounted by a lamb, and the lid bears the figure of Cupid: the base of the cup is supported by dolphins: it is of the period of the Empire. On the left of this is a very handsome vase, of pale green colour, mounted in cr-moulé: the handles are formed of little cherubs holding wreaths of flowers: this is one of a pair. Behind this is a silver stand, or plinth, with a Bacchanalian subject upon it in strong relief. The tall, narrow vessel, or jar, in front of the vase, is one of three, very elegantly formed and painted, in compartments, of birds and flowers, between which there is a deep blue band, just broken at the sides by a small zigzag border in gold: it is of Chelsea ware. The next object is the reliquary called Thomas a Becket's: in the catalogue described:—"A small coffer of copper gilt, richly ornamented with blue; on the front is the martyrdom of the saint, who stands before an altar holding a cross in his hand; above is a Bishop standing over the dead body of the saint, which is on a bier, supported by two figures; at the ends are the figures of the Virgin and St. Thomas. The back is divided into quatrefoil compartments, enamelled in blue, like the front, and has a door which is shown open in our illustration: the cresting is surmounted by a cross." The next object is of silver, and is supposed to have been used for condiments or salt: it is in the form of a vessel in full sail. There are figures on the prop of the vessel in the costume of James I., one or two in the act of firing; between them is placed a mermaid; the hull of the vessel is ornamented in rather crude work, with mermaids and dolphins: the whole work rests upon a dolphin, and circular base. The next object is an Oriental essence-sprinkler of very elegant form: it is one of a pair, and is of silver; the work richly chased, in beautiful pattern. The corresponding object on the left of the engraving is for the same purpose, but differently ornamented, being covered with a filigree ornament, like network, and wreathed with raised flowers, whose leaves are enamelled in various colours; it is an exquisite piece of work: like its companion, it is one of a pair. The small cup on the right of the centre vase is of ivory, and finely carved. The large tankard at the back is in silver, and bears figures in bold relief, raised, and chased.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND ART,

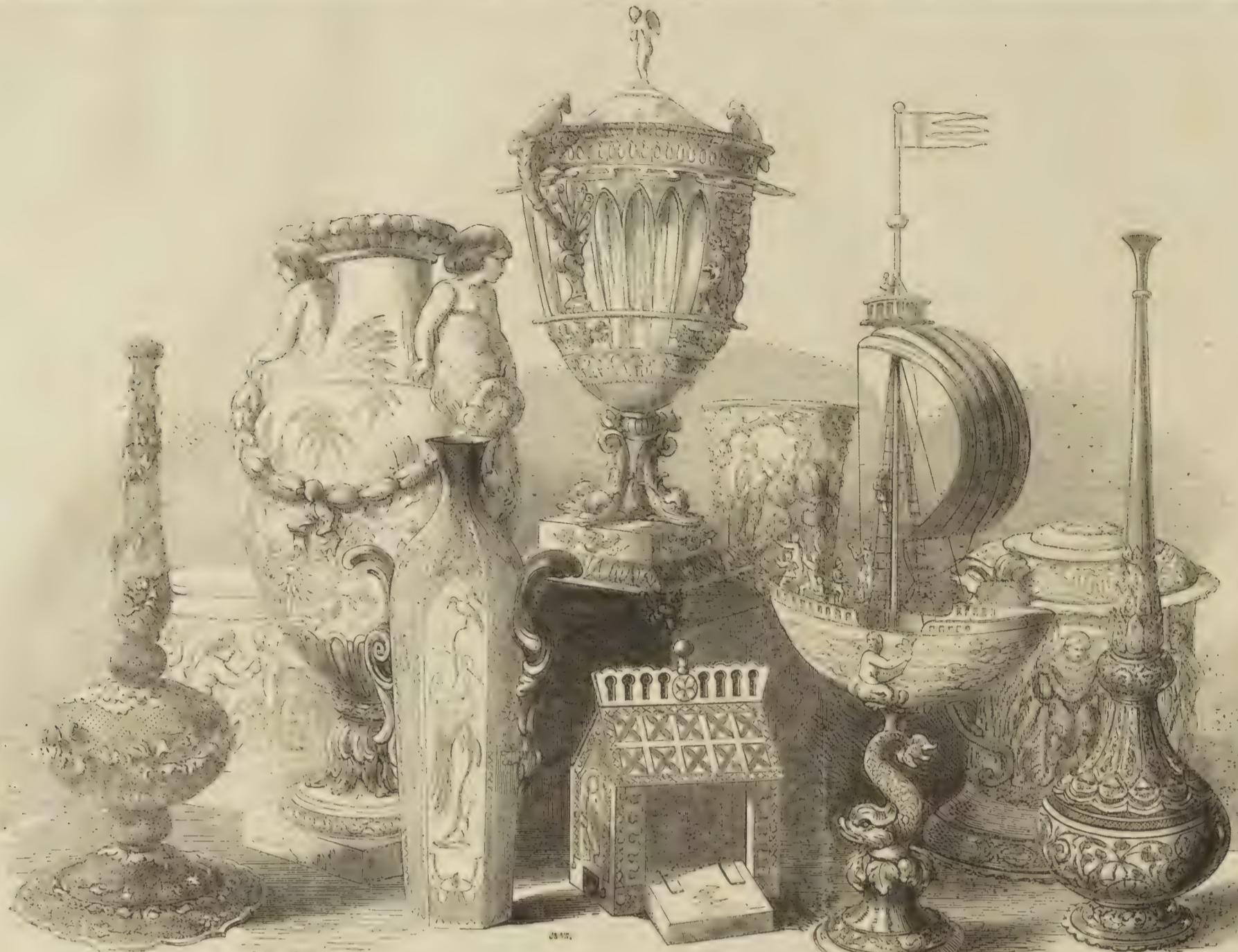
KENSINGTON GORE ESTATE.

On a portion of the Kensington Gore estate, purchased by the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, and adjoining the Roman Catholic Oratory, is now being constructed a large iron museum building, as preliminary to carrying out the views entertained by the Royal Commissioners for concentrating on their property the various institutions established in London to promote the interests of art and science. The present building is purposed to contain the large and valuable collections at present in Marlborough-house belonging to the Department of Science and Art; the important trade collection presented to the Royal Commission on the close of the Great Exhibition of 1851, and which is at present deposited in Kensington Palace; the interesting and valuable Museum of Animal Products formed by the Society of Arts in connection with the Royal Commission; the Educational Museum in connection with the Privy Council; and the Patent Museum, with others of a similar character.

It is not intended that this Museum should be merely an agreeable lounge or promenade to indulge or gratify curiosity alone, but is to be considered more as a National Institution, where every object of importance in science and art, from the earliest period to the present time, can be examined and studied with a view to the improvement of those who may visit the collections with that object, and on this account it might very well be named a great instructional museum for the advancement of science and art.

In form the building is rectangular, and the width is divided into three equal portions or spaces. The centre, or nave, which is 42 feet wide, is open from the floor to the roof; and along the aisles galleries run the full width, also of 42 feet, and are returned at both the ends, where they are 21 feet wide. Access to the galleries is obtained by two large central staircases, 14 feet wide, and four staircases at the ends of the building, 7 feet wide. The building is generally lighted from the roofs, which are three in number, and segmental in form. Under the gallery additional light is obtained by windows placed every 14 feet apart, and measuring 14 feet wide by 12 feet high.

Ample ventilation is secured by strong moveable louvres placed under the windows, and by another



GROUP OF SILVER AND PORCELAIN.—RARITIES FROM SIETHORP COLLECTION.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND ART IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION, ON THE KENSINGTON GORE ESTATE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE LORD MAYOR ANNOUNCING THE PEACE, AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY THE LONDON STEREOSCOPIC COMPANY.

GUNS OF PEACE.

SUNDAY NIGHT, March 30th.

Ghosts of dead soldiers in mid-battle slain;
Ghosts of dead heroes, dying, nobler far,
In long slow travail of inglorious war,
Of famine, sickness, weariness, and pain;—
All ye whose loss makes our victorious gain;—
This quiet night, thrilled with the cannon's tongue,
Do ye look down the quivering stars among,
And view our peace, our war, with like disdain?
Or, wiser grown in your celestial spheres,
Smile ye on those poor bones ye sowed as seed
For earth's peace-harvest, nor regret the deed?
Oh lift this cry with ours to heavenly ears,—
"Strike with Thy bolt the next red flag unfurled,
And make all wars to cease throughout the world!"—D.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE PEACE AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

By aid of the London Stereoscopic Company we are enabled to present our readers with a Photographic portraiture of the Group of Civic Authorities assembled upon the reading to the people the announcement of the Peace by the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion-house. His Lordship was accompanied by Sheriffs Kennedy and Rose, and attended by the Swordbearer, Macebearer, and City Marshal. Standing beneath the majestic portico of the City Palace—for the Mansion-house is, in architectural character, the most palatial edifice in the metropolis—the Lord Mayor, advancing to the balustrade, read to the people the welcome announcement which his Lordship had received from Sir George Grey of the signing of a Treaty of Peace at Paris. The Lord Mayor wears his superb collar and jewel, and the Sheriffs their chains of office; Sheriff Kennedy being on the left of his Lordship, and Sheriff Rose on his right. The Swordbearer, with his stupendous sword and cap, and the City Marshal in his handsome uniform, aid the official character of the group.

THE LATE CATASTROPHE AT CORK.

In our Journal of last week we recorded this melancholy accident, by which nineteen lives were lost. We now engrave the locality of the catastrophe—one of those close, narrow, and filthy lanes in which it is the hard fate of poverty to dwell, and with which Cork, and especially the flat of the city, abounds. This thoroughfare runs from Duncans-street, on the Marsh, and is known by the title of Penrose's-lane, or Penrose's-square: egress from it, to the North Main-street, being obtainable through Coleman's and Angel's lanes, by which it is crossed at the east, and both of which are thickly populated by the poorer classes. In the second house of Penrose's-lane, in the front room of the upper story (the house being three stories), occupied by a cooper, named Pat Sullivan, and his wife, about forty people, of his own grade in life, had assembled, on Saturday night, 29th ult., at the wake of an infant child aged two years. The night had far advanced, when a woman, Mary Noonan, remarked that she thought she heard something creaking. To this Sullivan, who was standing, leaning by the jamb of the door, unthinkingly replied, there was not enough in the room to pull down the house, and, at that moment, stepping into the room, the flooring gave way, and he and his forty friends were precipitated with a tremendous and fearful crash to the base of the house, where they were huddled together in one indescribable mass of dead and dying. The scene was appalling. The entire flooring and ceiling of the two stories were completely gone—not a vestige of them remained in their original positions, while beneath was an immense mass of ruin, with here and there a human head, an arm, or leg protruding; and, in one or two places, human forms were to be seen in a standing or sitting posture perfectly lifeless. The result of this deplorable accident was, five dead bodies were taken to the bridewell, six dead and six severely wounded were carried to the North Infirmary, and eight dead were taken by their friends and relatives to their homes in the immediate vicinity: thus making nineteen killed and six so injured as to require the shelter and care of the North Infirmary. Of the nineteen who met their death, very few of their bodies exhibited marks of external violence, having come by their end from suffocation; the eyes, nostrils, mouths, and ears of the killed being literally stuffed

with mortar-dust. The houses in Penrose's-lane are the property of Miss Patten, of Dunroche's-cross, and are apparently very old. They are let in tenements by the week; and it has been stated that a man, residing in the lane, on Saturday night informed the Mayor that a year ago he called the attention of the Corporation to the unsafe state of the very house which has fallen, and that the house was actually inspected by the proper officers, but no steps taken to render it more secure.



SCENE OF THE RECENT ACCIDENT AT CORK.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE CENTRAL LINE OF THE SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

THE first turf of the South-Western Central Line was turned on the 3rd instant, at Gillingham, under the most encouraging auspices. Notwithstanding the heavy rain, which began at an early hour and continued without the slightest intermission all day, the town of Gillingham saw a very great influx of visitors on the occasion.

The turf was turned in a field belonging to Mr. Kaines, situated at a convenient distance from the town of Gillingham. At the entrance, a substantial triumphal arch had been erected, above which floated the national colours of England, France, Sardinia, and Turkey. The ceremony of turning the first turf was performed by Miss Seymour, sister of the hon. member for Poole, the Chairman of the Company. A very elegant barrow and spade were prepared for the occasion, by Mr. Burt, C.E. The barrow is formed of walnut; the shafts terminate in griffins' heads, and the spokes are fashioned as sheaves of corn. It bears the arms of the South-Western Company, the Salisbury and Yeovil Company, the Seymour family, of Mr. Locke, and of the contractor; and the sides are of silver lattice work. The spade, of solid silver, is beautifully engraved and ornamented, displaying the arms of the South-Western and the Salisbury and Yeovil Railway Companies on one side, and on the other an inscription stating that it was presented to the Hon. Miss Sey-



COMMENCEMENT OF THE SALISBURY AND YEOVIL RAILWAY.

mour on the occasion of turning the first turf. This Miss Seymour accomplished in good style, and, having drunk a glass of champagne to the prosperity of the undertaking, the company adjourned to the pavilion, where nearly four hundred persons sat down to a first-rate *déjeuner*.

After the usual routine toasts had been given, the Chairman proposed "Success to the Salisbury and Yeovil Railway," and in doing so gave the following history of the steps which had been taken to promote that undertaking—

It is more than twenty years since this plan of a railway was first set forth. Robert Stephenson, in 1836, it was who first pitched upon it, naturally, as the direct line to Exeter (Cheers), the capital of the West of England, which in former times was of greater national importance than it is at present. We have been beaten by the North for the last hundred years, but there is no reason why, in the next century, we may not retrace our steps. Ten years passed over with the knowledge that it was the right direction to the West of England, and it was left in abeyance, not because there was any doubt of the goodness of the line, but because it was so good a line that many contended to have it. Well, in 1848 the South-Western, that spirited company, whose directors sit on my right hand, undertook to make the line, but they too, after four years, gave it up as a bad job—they could not do it (Laughter). In '54 an independent company started to make it, because it was wanted for local purposes. Its great importance in the system of south-western railways running in both directions was perceived; and we have now a company of which I have the honour to be chairman, started to make that railway for local purposes. Other circumstances have occurred, and our friends the South-Western Company are now pledged to continue the railway from Yeovil to Exeter (Cheers); and this great line, which is so important for local and imperial purposes, will at length be carried out (Cheers). This is a source of the greatest congratulation, for we are a district larger than any other in England that has hitherto been left without accommodation. It has got at one end of it—the Salisbury side—the excellent line with which we are connected—the main trunk line of the South-Western, which suddenly terminates there in the middle of a chalk down (Laughter)—a very strange termination for such a great work. And not only that, but in 1854 we had two lines terminating in Salisbury—the Basingstoke and Salisbury Direct Line, and the line which connects Salisbury with Portsmouth and Southampton. On the other side, we have at Yeovil three railways—I believe I might say there will be four—the Wilts and Somerset, running from Frome and Chippenham, and to the once popular and fashionable town of Weymouth; there is the Durston Railway running into the Bristol and Exeter; and there will be the Direct Line, which is so closely connected with ourselves, running from Yeovil to Exeter. The hiatus we are now willing to fill up—we are willing to join Salisbury, the ancient capital of Wiltshire, with the ancient town of Yeovil, which is one of the most spirited and enterprising towns in the West of England.

The barrow and spade were manufactured by Messrs. Herring, Fleet-street, upholsterers to the Corporation of London.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

DINNER AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor entertained a large company of distinguished persons at the Mansion-house on Tuesday evening. The most noticeable feature was the presence and speech of Nathaniel Hawthorne, author of "The House of the Seven Gables," and now American Consul at Liverpool. In reply to the toast of "Prosperity to the United States of America," coupled with the name of the Consul, Mr. Hawthorne (who was received with great cordiality), after expressing his sense of the compliment which had been paid him, assured the company present that there was no American who could feel so deeply as he did the honour of sitting at the festive board of the chief magistrate of the metropolis of England, and which, in the high and comprehensive sense of the term, they were bold enough to call their metropolis too (Cheers). In regard to the kind feelings they had expressed towards him in reference to his literary productions, he could only say that if he could pay but one farthing of the great debt that America owed to the intellect of England, he should be much more satisfied with himself than he had ever yet felt. In regard to the sentiments entertained in that assembly respecting his country, he should say that it was now some time since he left his native land, and it must be greatly changed in its pervading sentiments if it was not ready to respond, as it ever had done, to every friendly demonstration regarding England (Cheers). He believed there was never yet a kind word spoken or a kind action performed, by an Englishman towards an American that the American was not ready to respond to by an action or a word at least as kind, if not more so.

CAMBRIDGE ASYLUM FOR SOLDIERS' WIDOWS (KINGSTON, SURREY).—On Wednesday the first triennial anniversary of this charity was held at the London Tavern; his Grace the Duke of Wellington in the chair, supported by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Major-General Blanchard, C.B., R.E.; Major-General the Hon. Sir Edward Cust, K.C.B.; Major-General Rawdon, Colonel the Hon. Augustus Liddell (Deputy Chairman), Colonel the Hon. James Lindsay, M.P.; Colonel Rowland, R.A.; Colonel the Hon. G. F. Upton, General Sir H. Bentinck, Colonel Tyrwhitt, Major-General Russell, the Hon. Captain Murray, G. F. Farrance, Esq., &c. In proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Cambridge Asylum," the noble chairman stated that there were at present twenty-two soldiers' widows within the building, and that in a fortnight there would be eight more. There were only thirty rooms ready, and it was proposed to build another twenty rooms, which would cost £3,000. That was the sum required to complete the good work. The amount of subscriptions and donations announced was about £1400.

COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF ALEXANDRIA.—The annual banquet commemorative of the battle of Alexandria was given on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street; his Grace the Duke of Argyle in the chair. The friends of the Highland Society mustered in considerable force; many of the chiefs of clans were present, and the display of Highland costumes was picturesque and imposing in the extreme. The hall was hung with banners inscribed with the names—illustrious in the annals of Scotland—of Campbell of Argyll, Murray, Chisholm, Sutherland, Forbes, M'Donald, Urquhart, M'Leod, M'Kenzie, Gordon, Cameron, Lochiel, Glengarry, Macduff, Stewart, M'Pherson, M'Nab, M'Gregor, and Robertson.

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—The eighth anniversary of this institution was celebrated in Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday evening last. The large and brilliant company assembled to do honour to the occasion fully proved that the interest in the success of the institution is unabated. It is now nearly eighteen months since the old clubhouse was destroyed by fire; unfortunately the committee had no control over the rebuilding, and had many difficulties and adverse influences to contend against; these have at length been surmounted, and the announcement that the new building would shortly be ready for the occupation of the members, and that the next anniversary would again be held under their own roof, was received with great applause.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of deaths registered in London in the week that ended on Saturday was 1284. In the ten corresponding weeks of the year 1846-55 the average number was 1166; which, if raised by a tenth part for increase of population, becomes equal to the number actually registered last week. Phtisis (or consumption) carried off a greater number of persons than any other disease; it was fatal in 162 cases, bronchitis in 135, pneumonia in 112, typhus and common fever in 61, hooping-cough in 48, scarlatina in 35, measles in 23, diarrhoea in 16, small-pox in 15. A Chelsea pensioner died at the age of 93 years, and the widow of a shoemaker at the age of 96 years. Last week the births of 943 boys and 925 girls—in all 1868 children—were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55 the average number was 1513.

CORPORATION REFORM.—A Committee of the whole Court of Common Council met on Monday last for the purpose of considering the provisions of the bill introduced by Government for the reform of the Corporation. The discussion, which lasted several hours, was conducted with closed doors.

THE BAND IN KENSINGTON GARDENS.—Orders have been issued by the authorities at the Horse Guards, that the band of the Royal Horse Guards Blue shall play on Sunday next in Kensington Gardens from four to six, weather permitting. A band will play on each succeeding Sunday, and the time of the performance will probably vary as the season advances.

WESTMINSTER IMPROVEMENTS.—A deputation of Westminster bondholders waited on Sir B. Hall on Tuesday, with a view of obtaining some assistance from Government. Sir Benjamin expressed his sympathy, but did not think there was the slightest claim upon the Government in reference to the matter. It was simply an unfortunate private speculation.

MURDER OF TWO CHILDREN BY THEIR MOTHER.—At the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday, Mary Ann Harris, aged 25, unmarried, charged with the wilful murder of her two illegitimate children, Agnes Harris, aged 4½ years, and Emma Harris, aged 2½ years, by drowning them in the Grand Junction Canal on Friday, the 13th of February last, was found guilty, and received sentence of death.

THE ISLINGTON MURDER.—On Thursday morning, at the Central Criminal Court, Celestine Sommer, 21, married, was tried and found guilty of the wilful murder of Celestine Christmas, on the 15th of February, at Islington. Mr. Justice Crompton, in passing the usual sentence of death, told the prisoner not to entertain any hopes that her life would be saved.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The official announcement of peace, added to a steady influx of the precious metals, has had considerable influence upon Consols this week. Not that any material advance has taken place in the quotations—the improvement in them being confined to one-half per cent—but, evidently, there is a much better feeling as regards the future. For instance, the Account price for the Three per Cents for May is now ½ per cent higher than for present Transfer—a proof that the leading jobbers anticipate a further upward movement in value.

The demand for money, for commercial and other purposes, has been very active; consequently, the rates of discount in Lombard-street have been supported. There has, however, not been any serious pressure, notwithstanding that another instalment upon the new English loan of £5,000,000 fell due on Thursday. The Bank of England and the large discount-houses have supplied the wants of the commercial body somewhat freely; consequently, all existing arrangements have been easily met. We regret, however, to state that some failures, arising from the rapid fall in the value of some kinds of produce, have been announced.

Our advices from Paris state that the stock of bullion in the Bank of France is rapidly on the increase, and that it will not be necessary for the directors to purchase additional supplies of gold in London. This is a most important feature at the present moment; and we may now safely calculate upon most of the arrivals from Australia and America passing into the Bank of England. It is, however, stated that immense quantities of silver will continue to be forwarded to India and China; but our impression is that the demand will be nearly met by our imports from Mexico, and that it will be unnecessary to send gold to the Continent to purchase silver. The arrivals of gold have amounted to £480,000 from Australia, £35,000 from New York, and £20,000 from other quarters. The quantity shipped has been trifling. Sales of bar silver have been effected at 6d. per ounce.

The transactions in the English Stock-market on Monday were but moderate, and prices ruled as follows:—Bank Stock, 215 to 212½, ex div.; Three per Cent Reduced, 91½ to 92½, ex div.; Three per Cent Consols, 92½ to 93, both for Money and Account; New Three per Cents, 92½ to 93, ex div.; Long Annuities, 1855, 16½; India Bonds, 5s. to 10s. div.; Consols Scrip, 3½ prem.; Exchequer Scrip, 3½ prem.; Exchequer Bills (March), 2s. 5d. prem.; Ditto, June, 2s. dis. to par; Exchequer Bonds, 93½. On Tuesday the dealings were by no means numerous:—Bank Stock was 213½; Three per Cent Reduced, 91½; Consols, for Money, 92½; Ditto, for Account, 92½ to 92½; New Three per Cents, 92½ up to 93; India Bonds, 4s. discount; Exchequer Bills (March), 1s. to 4s. prem.; Ditto, June, par to 2s. discount; Exchequer Bonds, 93½. There was an improvement of about ¼ per cent in the quotations on Wednesday, and numerous small purchases of stock were effected on account of the public:—Bank Stock, 213; Three per Cent Reduced realised 91½ to 92½; Three per Cent Consols for Transfer, 92½ to 93½; Ditto for Account, 92½ to 93½; New Three per Cents, 92½ to 93½; Long Annuities, 1855, 3s 3½; Consols Scrip, 3½ prem.; Exchequer Scrip, 3s. prem.; Exchequer Bills varied from par to 5s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds were 93½ for both series. On Thursday the market opened firmly, at 93½ to 93½ for Money, and 93½ for the 8th proximo. The former closed at 93½, and the latter 93½. The New Threes were 93½ to 93, and the Reduced 92½ to 93½. Bank Stock was 213 to 213½; Exchequer Bills, March, were par to 1s. prem. The usual weekly meeting of the Bank Directors broke up without any change in the rate of discount being announced.

Some rather considerable transactions have taken place in the Foreign House, and prices almost generally have improved, the most important rise having been in Turkish Securities. Sales of Buenos Ayres Six per Cents have been recorded at 60; Brazilian Five per Cents, 99½ ex div.; Ecuador Bonds, 5½; Ditto, New Consolidated, 5½; Granada One-and-a-Half per Cents New Active, 21½; Ditto, Deferred, 7½; Greek, 7½; Mexican Three per Cents, 23; Peruvian Three per Cents, 55½; Russian Five per Cents, 95½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95; Sardinian Five per Cents, 95½; Spanish Three per Cents, 45½; Ditto, New Deferred, 25½; Ditto, Committee's Certificate of Coupon, 5½ per cent; Turkish Six per Cents, 10½; Turkish Four per Cents (guaranteed), 10½ to 102; Venezuelan Four-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 30; Ditto, One-and-a-Half per Cents, Deferred, 12½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 6½; Dutch Four per Cents, 9½ ex div.; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 96½.

There has been no new feature in the market for Joint-Stock Bank Shares; but the tendency of prices has been rather upwards.—Australia has marked 98; Bank of Egypt (the formation of which has received official sanction), 63; Bank of London, 65; City, 65; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16½; London Chartered of Australia, 17; London and County, 3½; London and Pais, 72; New South Wales, 40½; Oriental, 43½; Ottoman Bank, 6½; Union of Australia, 71½; Western Bank of London, 28.

Nearly all Miscellaneous Securities have been rather inactive. In prices, however, no material change has taken place:—Australian Agricultural, 3½; Berlin Waterworks, 6½; Canada Company's Bonds, 14½; Ditto, Government Six per Cents, 10½; Crystal Palace, 2½; Electric Telegraph, 8½; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 1½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 15½; London General Omnibus Company, 3½; London Docks, 99½; Netherlands Land, 4; Oriental Gas, 1½; Ditto, New Shares, ½ prem.; Peel River Land and Mineral, 3; St. Katharine Docks, 82; South Australian Land, 38; Southampton Docks, 40; Van Diemen's Land, 16½.

For Railway Shares there has been a better demand, and prices generally have further improved. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 4½; Caledonian, 6½ ex div.; Chester and Holyhead, 18½; East Anglian, 17½; Eastern Counties, 10½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 62; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 29½; Great Northern, 94½; Ditto, A Stock, 79½; Ditto, B Stock, 124; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 104; Great Western, 65½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 88; London and Blackwall, 7½; London and Brighton, 103½; London and North-Western, 101½; Ditto, Fifths, 16½; London and South-Western, 95; Manchester, 7½; Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 28½; Midland, 75½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 4½; Norfolk, 45½; North British, 35; North-Eastern (York), 6½; North and South-Western Junction, 10½; Shropshire Union, 48; South Devon, 18½; South-Eastern, 72½; South Wales, 70½; Waterford and Kilkenny, 5½.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Midland Bradford Preferred Stock, 93½; Northern and Eastern, 56½; Shrewsbury and Hereford, 7½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Aberdeen, 120; Ditto, No. 2, Seven per Cent, 119½; Great Northern Five per Cent, 117½; Ditto, 108; Great Southern and Western (Ireland) Four per Cent, 10; London and Brighton, Five per Cent, 116; Ditto, New six per Cent, 136; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 98; Waterford and Kilkenny, 2½.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8½; Belgian Eastern Junction, 2½; Buffalo and Lake Huron, 6½; Dutch Rhineish, 12½; Eastern of France, 14½; East Indian Extension, 22½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 1½; Great Central of France, 20½; Great Indian Peninsula, 21½; Great Luxembourg Constituted Shares, 7½; Great Western of Canada, 26; Ditto, New, 8½; Hamilton and Toronto, 25 ex div.; Madras, 16½; Namur and Liège, with interest, 7½; Northern of France, 41½; Royal Danish, 20½; Sambre and Meuse, 14½; Ditto, Five-and-a-Half per Cent, 9½; Scinde, 7.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—April 7.—The supply of English wheat on sale in to-day's market was very moderate, but in fair condition. For most kinds there was a steady demand, at last Monday's currency. The transactions in foreign wheat were by no means extensive; nevertheless, previous rates were well supported. We had a much better feeling in the barley trade, at an improvement in value of ½ per cent. Malt changed hands to a moderate extent, though at barely the late rates quoted in the quotations. In other very little was being done in the bows; but beans, peas, and flour moved on steadily, at extreme rates.

April 8.—The amount of business done in all kinds of produce to-day was very moderate. Prices, however, were superfluous.

English Wheat.—Essex and Kent red, 6s. to 7s.; ditto white, 6s. to 7s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 6s. to 7s.; rye, 4s. to 4s.; grinding barley, 3s. to 3½s.; distilling ditto, 3s. to 3s.; malting ditto, 4s. to 4s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 7s. to 7s.; brown ditto, 6s. to 6s.; Kingston and Ware, 7s. to 7s.; Chevalier, 7s. to 7s.; York-shire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 2s. to 2s.; potato ditto, 2s. to 2s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 12s. to 22s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 23s.; tick beans, 32s. to 35s.; grey peas, 3s. to 3s.; maize, 4s. to 4s.; white, 4s. to 4s.; boileys, 4s. to 4s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 3s. to 6s.; Suffolk, 4s. to 4s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 4s. to 4s. per 200 lbs. American flour, 3s. to 3s. per barrel.

Seeds.—For forward shipment, linseed is lower by 2s. per quarter; but, on the spot, very little change has taken place in the quotations. Most other seeds, including cakes, are selling at late rates.

Linen.—English, crushing, 6s. to 6s.; Mediterranean, 6s. to 6s.; hempseed, 5s. to 5s. per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 21s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 14s. to 14s.; white, 10s. to 13s.; tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, 8s. to 9s. per quarter. Linseed cakes, English, £13 10s. to £13 10s.; foreign, £12 10s. Rapo cakes, £7 0s. to £7 10s. per ton. Canary, 6s. to 6s. per quarter; white clover seed, 8s. to 10s.; red ditto, 7s. to 9s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 10d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 69s. 5d.; barley, 38s. 8d.; oats, 23s. 6d.; rye, 4s. 7d.; beans, 4s. 7d.; peas, 3s. 9d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 69s. 0d.; barley, 38s. 11d.; oats, 23s. 7d.; rye, 4s. 8d.

English Grain and Seed.—Wheat, 88,099; barley, 53,456; oats, 12,823; rye, 12,323; beans, 6,624; peas, 6,699 quarters.

Tea.—Our market is very inactive, but we have no change to notice in the quotations.

The stock in the United Kingdom is 78,16,000 lbs., against 76,739,080 lbs. at the corresponding period in 1854.

Sugar.—There is less doing in all raw sugars, and in some instances, sales have been forced at a reduction in price of 6d. per cwt. Barbadoes has realised 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d.; crystallised Demerara, 3s. 6d. to 4s.; Mauritius, 4s. to 4s.; Madras, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.

Floating cargoes are firm. Refined goods move off steadily, at 5s. to 5s. 6d. per cwt.

Coffee.—We have to report a slow sale for most descriptions, and prices have a downward tendency. Good ord. native Ceylon, 52s. 6d. per cwt.

Rice.—This article—owing to heavy stock in warehouse—is very dull at a decline of fully 9d. per cwt.

Provisions.—Irish butter is slow in sale, and rather lower to purchase. Foreign qualities, however, change hands steadily, at full quotations. English butter is dull, but the best weekly Dorset is worth 12s. to 13s. per cwt. The inquiry for bacon is firm. Hams and lard

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BABYLONIAN LIONS JUST RECEIVED AT THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.

(Continued from page 382.)

The Lion of Assyria figures in an important position on the marbles, and the living specimens, now for the first time exhibited in Europe, will have a peculiar interest to the archaeologist, as well as to the naturalist. To the latter their arrival will afford an opportunity of still further tracing the distinctions between the Asiatic lions sent to the Society from

Gujerat in 1854, by the Rajah of Janaghur, and the Nubian and other African varieties which have long existed in the menagerie. They are as yet scarcely old enough to present the characteristic differences which may be expected to assimilate them most closely to the partially-maned lion of India, the male being apparently about two years old and the female considerably younger.

The lions are not, however, the only addition to the magnificent series of carnivora which the marble-vessel had on freight. An exceedingly pale variety of the leopard, if it is not a distinct species, appears to inhabit the Assyrian plains; and we were exceedingly gratified to find that a fine female specimen of this beautiful feline has also been added to the collection.



WRECK OF THE CHILEAN STEAMER "CAZADOR."—(SEE PAGE 382.)

ART REFORM.—No. IV.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY:

ITS DEFICIENCIES AND DESIDERATA.

WE now proceed to a special review of the Art treasures, desiderata, and deficiencies of the National Gallery.

The school of Florence is naturally the first that attracts our attention; for with Dante we have the revival of the Epic; with Petrarch, that of the Sonnet; and with Boccaccio, the most perfect specimen of the unadorned school of Narration. These three men have never since been surpassed in their respective walks; and, in our eyes, the high art of the Italians begins with them. The strong feelings of the terrible struggles of the Guelphic period called forth the culture of the Beautiful, and the grand source of Italian art lay deeper than all the handicraft of the limners in form and colour that preceded this fascinating and majestic resurrection. With these great names are inseparably connected those of Cimabue and Giotto, Lorenzo Ghiberti, Brunellesco, and many others—in short, the *incunabula* of all the Renaissances. The fresh springs of invention saturated the soil, and out they came through various channels, giving life to the barren waste. Poetry, painting, sculpture, and architecture—all flourished in vernal luxuriance. In the whole range of history there is scarcely a spot on which the taste and intelligence pasture more pleasantly than Florence during the two centuries that preceded the departure of Michael Angelo to Rome.

With Cimabue the reign of the pure old Byzantines ended. The manner of Giotto, called in his day the "New Manner," was the first phase of the interregnum previous to the accession of the "*mania moderna*" of Leonardo. How willingly would we see specimens of these men as well as of Masaccio, that great painter, whose works denote the noon of the Cinque-Cento being close at hand; but we know that their works are not in the market. A Raphael or Correggio may be had within a given time—it is simply a question of money; but with these celebrated old Florentine masters it is the rarest thing imaginable to



"THE LILY."—PAINTED BY C. BAXTER.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

them, even in Italy. We are therefore under great obligations to Mr. Conyngham for the two saints' pictures of Taddeo Gaddi.

We know of no valid grounds for doubting their genuineness, and

to see one good specimen of him, which could be procured with

out much difficulty.

The greatest of the Umbrian pre-Raphaelites is, of course

they are, most certainly, interesting specimens of the new manner of Giotto. In order fully to appreciate their value, we think that a specimen or two of the real old Byzantine pictures could be procured with no great difficulty, from Italy or the Levant, and possessing sufficient merit, in order to make a sort of antechamber to our pictorial suite. We should also think a Ghirlandajo (master of Michael Angelo) not impossible to be procured, just to close the pre-Raphaelite period in Tuscany, for we count Leonardo among the moderns.

Of Michael Angelo we have two representations at second-hand: the fine "Dream of Human Life" (No. 8), painted after his design by one of his scholars; and all his genius shines forth through the Venetian colouring of Sebastian del Piombo in the "Raising of Lazarus," that great combination of human genius, which realised Tintoretto's idea of the design of Michael Angelo and the colouring of Titian. We believe that an oil painting by Michael Angelo is nowhere to be had at any price. At the same time we should like to see some design or sketch in gums in the Gallery of which we could say, "This was done by the hand of the great Michael Angelo."

The sound drawing, tender light and shade, and pleasing general tone of Andrea del Sarto is fairly represented in No. 17. So much for the Raphael and Michael Angelo period. But when we sail down the stream of time the gaps are visible. Vasari having written so charmingly in the time of Il Nostro Gran Duca Cosimo, we should like to see one of the most celebrated of all the historians of art himself painted. Cristoforo Allori, called Bronzino, has only a portrait, giving no idea of the powers of the artist who produced the "Judith," one of the pearls of the Palazzo Pitti. Carlo Dolce, who fills up a large part of the seventeenth century, and was the contemporary of Claude, Murillo, Teniers, and Rembrandt, is no great favourite of ours; but considerable tenderness of expression cannot be denied to this effeminate designer and meretricious colourist. We should, therefore, like



"IN THE MARSHES—MORNING."—PAINTED BY G. A. WILLIAMS.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Pietro Perugino; we are, therefore, thankful for even an early scrap of him; but surely we may hope that some day there may be an adequate specimen of the better productions of the master of Raphael and the rival of Francia and Leonardo; for, although Perugino may be set down as the last painter of the *maniera antica*, those who remember his grand effort in the Vatican Gallery, which nobly stands its ground even under the roof that covers the "Transfiguration" and the "Sacrament" of St. Jerome, may fairly wish to see his later oil manner as applied to History in our National Collection.

We now come to Raphael, and scarcely know where to begin or where to end; but our space is limited. We have no less than four specimens of this incomparable master. On the subject of the productions of his first and middle manner we have no occasion to say anything; but, as regards his last and greatest manner, the public is no doubt much indebted to the directors of the Foundling Hospital for permission to have the "Massacre of the Innocents" deposited in the Gallery. We would remark, however, that whatever merit it has is entirely spoiled by the large glass over it, which prevents the cartoon from being seen. A chaos of heads and hands is before the spectator, but the chief object before him is a dusky mirror of the figures and skylight of the room behind him. There need be no delicacy about its removal, as it has been painted over in oil by some unknown hand, and therefore Raphael's own touches do not meet the eye.

For specimens of the later Raphael—of the philosopher who comprehended the mysteries of existence—the poet who soared to the ideal—and the technical artist whom all generations have pronounced "Great Master," we do not require, as stated in our Hampton Court article, to go abroad with money in our purse. The Cartoons, by the feeling for high art which they maintained, were the true nuclei of the National Gallery; and it was in company with the potent grandeur of Del Piombo, the poignant pathos of Francia, the tender suavity of Correggio, and the fine sentiment and noble elevation of Garofalo, that we hope to see them by transfer the chief glory of the National Gallery of the future.

Of the later Romans, Caravaggio, Sassoferato, and Carlo Maratto, the first is fairly represented in 172—"Christ with the Disciples at Emmaus." Caravaggio was an original inventor and head of a school that seduced for a time the youthful Guido, and scattered seeds that took deep root in Spain. We are therefore glad to see a good specimen of him; but his system, which had such *furore* in his day, has not certainly maintained itself. His opaque ebony shadows are flat and poor beside the translucent fire of Giorgione and the "darkness visible" of Rembrandt; while his vulgar realism was rejected by the later Romans, and by none more than Carlo Maratto. We have no adequate specimen of this latter artist in the National Gallery. He was not a very original genius, but one of the most accomplished and pleasing of painters—by the fastidiousness of his taste in subjects, composition, and the amenity of his colour and expression. A good portrait is not enough of the man who, having died in the reign of our own Queen Anne, is the last of the race of Italian art giants.

Of the peruked *dilettante* Rome of the eighteenth century we have only a very moderate Panini, giving no idea of the Roberts of the days of Mengs, Winckelman, and Pompeo Battoni. All those who remember the good glowing Paninis will agree with me. We have no desire to see anything of Pompeo Battoni in the National Gallery; but a good Mengs, as a specimen of the most faultless academic painter of the eighteenth century, is desirable.

Of the early Bolognese school we have the two gems, Nos. 179 and 180, and we can desire nothing finer, for nothing finer is to be had of this description either in Italy or out of it. The resplendent genius of Francia has stamped all the spotless purity of the life of Christ on a lifeless corpse, and given a superhuman beauty and grace to the attendant angels of the *picta*; the one, an immortal spirit scarcely veiled by the flesh; the other, a being for worldly ministry; and the whole taking an irresistible hold of the spectator. A composition of this sort drives us, in spite of ourselves, beyond the bounds of the art that gave it origin, and, as we gaze in admiration, some deep vein of the pathetic beauty of a Stradella or a Bellini seems to reveal itself in still small accents while the trance prevails.

The pathos of the mother is alone slightly in excess, and a little wanting in that settled tranquillity of effect which is a grace beyond the reach of art, and constitutes one of the rare attainments of genius. Is it surprising that when Raphael sent his "St. Cecilia" to Bologna he should have asked this artist to make whatever improvements on it he thought proper? And who can wonder that the Italians of the Cinque-Cento were cold to the new correct analytical theology, when their souls were under the spell of such poetry as this?

From Francia to the Caracci is a descent as from Milton and Shakespeare to Addison, Pope, and Goldsmith; yet we are pleased to see that the Gallery abounds in good specimens of these masterly eclectics of Bologna. We have also abundant specimens of their refined and pleasing successor Guido, the greatest of all the masters of sensuous harmony and voluptuous elegance. Of Guercino, who flourished and died nearly a generation later, we have one charming easel picture—"Angels Weeping over the Dead Body of Christ," which shows his fine relief, without the opacity of Caravaggio. But Domenichino, whose greatest works take the highest rank by their delicious expression and pure design, is not represented in the plenitude of his power; and we cannot consider ourselves as overstocked in these two charming masters.

Of the ingenious, elegant, and anacreontic Albano, the contemporary of Guido, who had such an influence over Nicholas Poussin, we have no specimen. Of Lanfranco, another contemporary of Guido, and pupil of the Caracci, a considerable artist, with fine copious design and handling, although deficient in positive beauty, we have nothing. Blank also is Carlo Cignani, the last of the great eclectics of Bologna.

The little that there is of the school of Ferrara is good—Mazzolini da Ferrara, with his "Holy Family" (169), recalling the early Venetian religious *genre* of pictures; and Garofalo, with his poetical "St. Augustin" (No. 81), comprising that wide view of nature and the heavenly choir above, which in an inferior artist would be the height of the ridiculous; but how far from that is the sublime of Garofalo!

We now come to the Venetians, who, along with the Romanised Frenchmen, form the chief strength of the Gallery—a proof that in the modern English taste the perception of colour has been more vivid and earlier than that of form.

It is useless wishing for a specimen of the early *genre* painters of Venice, those Giovanni Mansuetis and Vittore Carpaccios, who were the Canalettos of the Saracenic Venice of the Quattrocento. They are not in the market; we are, therefore, thankful for two specimens of the Giovanni Bellino period. The one, a fine portrait of the Doge Loredano, by the hand of Giovanni himself, and the other that remarkable anonymous picture of the kneeling warrior, in some of its parts, a capital specimen of the early Venetian manner, for we must except the ungainly warrior himself. The bright equable tone, and the absence of all climax in colour, rather tell against its being a Giorgione, as at first catalogued. Cima da Conegliano, with his somewhat hard lines, had not this harmonious suavity. A very early Titian

There is no specimen of Titian's great early rival, Pordenone;

and scarcely an adequate specimen of Tintoretto, who, in his higher efforts, yields to none in colour and dramatic force. There is also, strange to say, in the Gallery no specimen of either the elder or the younger Palma—both considerable men: the former a charming and careful colourist, and the latter a full freeman of the guild of handling.

The name of Paul Veronese is very much before the public just now; and the new acquisition, the "Adoration of the Magi" (No. 268), is much discussed. We cannot go the length of the severe censures that have been passed on this picture. We must take Paul Veronese for what he is, i.e. not a pure expressionist, but the most vivid and the least mechanical of all the macchinisti, and the most gorgeous of scene-painters, whose works have dignity in their forms, incomparable bravura of enterprise, and invention, and colour, with a poetry of its own apart from all other poetries. But to look with too microscopic vision into a Paul Veronese would be as illogical as to expect scenic effect from an expressionist. No doubt the principal Magus is harsh and inharmonious; and the ray which cuts the picture in two is so great a mistake that we must either consider it an aboriginal error by Paul himself, or that its transparent golden quality has disappeared. But with all its faults the picture is decidedly an acquisition, and it certainly has all that lagoon-flavoured Oriental pomp and splendour by which this great colourist has rendered himself so celebrated.

If Dante was the bard of the morning of Florence, when the first resplendent beams of art burst through the murky night of mediæval anarchy, Paul Veronese is the congenial poet of the meridian brilliancy of Venice. The eager hand of trade had stretched itself over the wide East, and filled her coffers to overflowing. The Saracen style of Venice—first fruit of her acquisitions and connections—had given way to the superb adaptations of a Palladio, a Sansovino, a Sammichiele, and a Baldassare Longhena. The Cape, discovered by Portuguese enterprise, was not yet utilised by Dutch and British perseverance. The festive luxury of East and West, of antiquity and modern times, were united in this mart of nations; the cup of prosperity was filled to the brim; and the fruits of opulence and taste hung festooned and clustering around. Humility, poverty, self-discipline, were strange and unbidden guests at the art orgies of these Romans of the ocean. The song of Veronese was attuned to this magnificence of festivity. He was the bard, not of the Israel or Judah, but of the Venice that Tasso saw and Shakespeare dreamed of. Poussin and Albano had their nymphs with bruised grape, or satyrs and fauns sporting in the forest glade. Veronese was also essentially a decorative, not a devotional, artist. The aulic banquet, with palatial vista, lighted by the azure sky of the Adriatic, and gladdened by the sound of the dulcet, the sackbut, and the psaltery, becomes "The Supper in the House of Levi," or "The Marriage of Cana;" and the kneeling greyheads, with gold ointment and precious stones, while turbanned "bonny tawny Moors" stand by, becomes the "Adoration of the Magi." Such was Paul, wide as the poles asunder from Francia and Perugino, and with more of Anacreon than of David in his soul.

"THE LILY." BY C. BAXTER.

FROM THE EXHIBITION IN SUFFOLK-STREET.

ONE of the sweetest pictures in the Suffolk-street Exhibition (one to which we have already alluded) is "The Lily"—a half-length of a girl of twenty—from the facile and graceful pencil of Mr. Charles Baxter. It is a something between portraiture and poetry. It is, in a word, Mr. Baxter's ideal of a beautiful woman.

We could have wished that Mr. Baxter had found some other title for this representation of female loveliness than the hackneyed title of "The Lily." Our poets and romance-writers would easily have yielded him a name more appropriate and certainly less hackneyed. To our thinking (and we are fresh from a fifth perusal of "Tom Jones") Mr. Baxter's "Lily" has something of a Sophia Western look.

We are sorry to observe an increasing and injurious custom among artists of commencing and completing pictures without knowing what to call them. They begin with a pretty face, a capital piece of costume, and old Gothic doorway, or a suit of leather hangings, and then work in figures and accessories, trying to tell a story within a story from so difficult a beginning. It was not this way that Hogarth and Wilkie worked, or as Leslie still works. These great artists well weighed a subject and then worked assiduously up to it. They never began at the wrong end. It seems impossible that a picture can have any dramatic completeness and unity of purpose that is put together in so unworkmanlike a way.

"IN THE MARSHES." BY G. A. WILLIAMS.

FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

MR. WILLIAMS has found the subject of the careful picture which we this week engrave in the fair country of England—in the neighbourhood, we suspect, of what was once Whittlesea Mere. He is, like Rembrandt and Constable, fond of a mill; and a very picturesque one he has given us under the appropriate name of "In the Marshes." There is a lovely air of solitude in this characteristic picture: much is told and much is indicated. The spectator steps from before the picture conscious that it has come from no ordinary hand.

The most celebrated picture of a Mill to be found among the art-treasures of England is the glorious little landscape in the Marquis of Lansdowne's collection at Bowood; known wherever art is cultivated as "Rembrandt's Mill." Mrs. Jameson has described it with her usual accuracy. On an eminence overhanging a river stands a windmill, and near it a cottage. In the foreground, on a river's bank, a woman is washing linen, and a boat with a man in it is near the shore. A woman leading a child is seen coming down the road which leads from the summit of the hill to the river's bank. The effect is that of evening after sunset. On the left the shadowy twilight is stealing over the scene; to the right the glam of the departing day lingers in the sky, throwing out in strong relief the massy outline of the hill, and shining on the river below. There is a calm solemn beauty in this homely scene, which is quite indescribable.

For this fine picture by Rembrandt, Lord Lansdowne gave 800 guineas. Mr. Williams does not ask, and will not receive, as much for his inferior though clever Mill.

CUYP.

CUYP is one of the most able and prolific artists of the *genre* style of the seventeenth century; his name justly stands forth as that of a master in his calling, and the daily-increasing interest which attaches to his peculiar range of art, and the number of competitors who enter it, naturally invests his name with increasing weight and importance. The experience of the recent great Art Exhibition in Paris tends to show that nature, as a subject for art, has unfading attractiveness; and the marvellous success of Rosa Bonheur, in a field humble in itself, attracts anew attention to the great masters who have preceded her in the same school.

Albert Cuyp was himself the son of a painter of some merit, and an exception to the general rule against the hereditary virtue of genius—for Albert has immeasurably surpassed his father Jacob, as nature is greater than all technic prescription. Although he received some lessons in technical matters from his parent Albert Cuyp, in truth, owed all to nature, or rather to the fine appreciation of nature with which he was gifted. His works, which are purely local in character, show that his imagination never travelled beyond the sphere of his personal daily observation; and his delight and pride consisted in studying the ever-changing atmospheric effects which traversed the broad expanse of his native lowlands; now the cool dawn, with its floating mists, now the bright resplendence of the mid-day sun; now the saffron hues of closing evening; now the summer's heat, so lurid as almost to stop one's breath; now the winter's gloom, rendered still colder by the reflection of the pale silvery moon. In all these atmospheric creations, we insist—spite the detractive ravings of a modern critic, who has written himself into some sort of note—Cuyp was unequalled in his day, and has never since been surpassed; for with him it was not so much the power and the truthfulness of the effect which he produced before us, as the delicacy with which power and truth were subdued by the soft intoning quality which he threw over the whole production, and which, whilst it heightened the charm experienced by the spectator, detracted from that feeling of astonishment which a similar effort more

ostentatiously displayed would infallibly have elicited. This is the *ars celare artem*, which none but men of real genius have; and which so many thousands gaze on and admire, spellbound, without knowing why.

But though Cuyp's atmospheres were unapproachable, they did not comprise his whole merit; he devoted himself as a passion to every object in nature, and to all with almost equal success. There is scarcely a variety of domestic animal creation—cows, oxen, sheep, horses, &c.—which he has not produced with a life-like reality quite astonishing; and his landscapes, introducing grass-lands, water, trees, fruits, with various accessories, all speak eminently of the modesty of nature.

As is too common the case with the great intellectual instructors of mankind, whether in art or letters, Cuyp was but poorly appreciated in his own time, and his works did not obtain anything like the prices they now command till long after his death, and then only through the influence of strangers. (He was born at Dort in 1606, and was alive in 1672. Date of death uncertain). It appears, according to Mr. Smith, in his "Life of Cuyp," that down to the year 1750 (more than half a century after the artist's death) there was no instance of any picture of Cuyp selling in Holland for more than thirty florins, something less than £3 sterling. How different the honours and rewards now commanded by our Landsseers, and Ansdeels, and by our fair ally, Rosa Bonheur! Mr. Smith continues:—"Soon after the period above named a gradual advance in their value took place, in consequence of the repeated demand for them by English and French dealers; and at the sale of the celebrated collection of M. Van der Linden van Shingelandt, in 1785, public opinion was unequivocally pronounced upon their merits by the payment of prices in some measure commensurate with their beauty, but which have since in many cases been quadrupled." Walpole—that ill-happy shallow wit of the last century—who could see no merit beyond the range of his own waistcoat—once wrote to Sir Horace Mann (May 1, 1774):—"Sir G. Colroke, a citizen and martyr to what is called *speculation*, had his pictures sold by auction last week. A 'View of Nimeguen,' by Cuyp, and which he had bought very dearly for 70 guineas, sold for 290!"

There is a very beautiful Cuyp, in his sunniest golden hue, in the National Gallery; and several of his works in the Dulwich collection. In Her Majesty's private collection there are nine Cuyps; in the Bridgewater Gallery six, including the celebrated historical picture of "The Landing of Prince Maurice at Dort." The Marquis of Westminster, Lord Ashburton, Sir R. Peel, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lord De Grey, the Marquis of Ilford, the Duke of Rutland, and Mrs. Wells, of Iddesleigh, are amongst the other English collectors, whose galleries boast fine specimens of this fascinating artist. Abroad—in the Louvre are several examples, amongst which two are very fine, one representing a gentleman going out to ride, a servant holding his stirrup; the other representing the return from riding. In the Gallery of the Hermitage at St. Petersburg, in the Royal collection at Dresden, and in the Esterhazy Gallery at Vienna, are also fine specimens of this master.

ANCIENT REMAINS IN THE CRIMEA.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL MUNRO delivered, about a fortnight since, at the Bristol Philosophical Institution, the following lecture upon the remains of the supposed ancient temple discovered near the British head-quarters in the Crimea, and engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Dec. 8 and Jan. 19. The lecture was illustrated by drawings and by an immense variety of specimens of ancient coins, fragments of vases, amphoræ, pateræ, cups, &c., found among the ruins, and which the gallant officer had brought home with him. Colonel Munro remarked that he had brought home the relics for the British Museum; and, in the belief that they would interest the inhabitants of a neighbourhood in which he had spent many happy years of his life, he wished them to be exhibited in Bristol. It was suggested that he should say a few words upon them to the literary society connected with the institution; he readily did so. He had since been requested to exhibit them in that theatre, and he was there to comply with that request. After detailing the sufferings and praising the heroism of the British army in the Crimea, the gallant lecturer explained the discovery of the remains. The men were employed in making roads, at which some 5000 soldiers were working, and, as they did not very well like the labour, it became necessary for the superior officers to keep among them. He had 400 men under him, one of whom in digging turned up a coin of Romanus; soon afterwards another was found; and then, in excavating further, they came upon a large stone, which, finding that it was wrought on all sides, he knew must have been of some use and importance. In pursuing his researches he traced out what he was convinced were the remains of a temple. It was an oblong walled enclosure, measuring 150 feet by 93 feet, and it had at one end a circular form. Its walls, which were 10 feet in thickness, comprised a cyclopean wall and an inner wrought wall. He (Colonel Munro) applied to the Commander-in-Chief on the subject, and was told that he might have fifty men to pursue his investigation, and he accordingly chose some from his own regiment, and went to work. He soon found a piece of sculpture, part of the lower legs of a figure, but it was far from good; he also found a reclining figure, similar to those which were always found upon the tombs of persons who had died on the Bosphorus; it was of the rudest execution. After some days they found a well having on its walls traces of some painting, which was not sufficiently perfect to be made out. They then came to a stone having grooves in it, as if for a liquid to run off, and which he felt satisfied had been a sacrificial stone. They also found sixteen vessels, all having different capitals, and in all of which were different descriptions of soil, a few bones, and some charcoal. Upon digging down to the building found, but only at some two feet beneath the surface, parts of a human skeleton, which was, doubtless, of much later date than the building. The vessels could not have held liquids, as they were most of them joined together with lead, and in every one of them he found what some had supposed to be weights, but which he believed were tesserae—a sort of ancient invitation card used upon visiting. One of these capitals was found ten feet below the level of the mound of earth, so that it must have been coeval with the building. He also found a peculiar stone with two holes worked out in it, and in which the victims probably placed their feet when the sacrifices were human. All round the building he found enormous quantities of amphoræ, which were used by the ancients for carrying and storing oil, grain, &c. These amphoræ were long vase-shaped vessels of coarse clay, peculiarly formed, having double handles; indeed, he could find nothing exactly like them in the museums at London or Paris. From their shape and form they were probably of Assyrian origin, and most likely the temple was an outlying temple from Kherson. The gallant Colonel then exhibited various specimens of pottery, glass beads, coins, &c., and proceeded to discuss the probable date of the temple, which he himself believed might have been dedicated to Diana, and whose date he ascribed, from the coins and other evidences, to from 350 to 450 B.C. He exhibited grotesque fragments of incense vessels, iron remains of spear-heads, and other matters, and also an exceedingly graceful Grecian female head in terra cotta, which Mr. Hawkins, of the British Museum, and others who had seen it, had pronounced to be one of the most beautiful specimens of ancient Grecian art in Europe, if not in the world. This head, the gallant lecturer said, had been presented to Queen Victoria in the name of the British army, and he had therefore only a permissive possession of it. It was found by a soldier, whose pickaxe, happening to hit in the mould-hole on the head, brought it up without injury. The head was bound with laurel, and was probably that of Astarte, or some deity. Colonel Munro also exhibited a number of fibulae which he had found in the walls, some flint arrow and spear tops, and a number of dints. He said he had also collected a large box of bones of the smaller ruminant animals,—such as sheep, kids, &c., and which were probably the remains of sacrifices. The coins found by him were admitted to be of rare value: some of them unique. They bore effigies of Minerva, Pan, Apollo, Diana. Many had letters forming part of the word "Kherson," and some a griffin, the emblem of Pantocrator. The dates ranged from about 450 down to 350 B.C.; then there was a long interval, after which they ranged from 300 to about 950 A.D. On the handles of most of the vessels was the name of an officer who used to have charge of the fountains, drains, &c., which officer ceased to exist when the Greek cities ceased to be free.

Dr. Symonds, in moving a vote of thanks to Colonel Munro, paid an eloquent tribute to those brave heroes to whom England owed so much, whether they had shared in the glories attendant on the fall of Sebastopol, or had displayed the highest attributes of the soldier—courage, devotion, and endurance in the trenches.

THE POPE A FAMILY MAN.—A complete and magnificently adorned set of baby clothes, with all the requisite apparatus suited to the first wants of his imperial godson or god-daughter, are now being prepared by the Pope's orders, with all possible dispatch. A set of baby linen is a customary thing for the Pope to present to the Catholic Queens or Empresses in interesting situations, and is termed the *infascio* (from the old custom of swaddling infants, still observed in Italy), under which title it is nearly as often sent to the sovereigns of Christendom by his Holiness as the golden rose or the ducal hat. The last *infascio* sent from Rome was quite recently to the Queen of Spain.

HONOURS TO SCIENCE AND LITERATURE.—The King of Bavaria has founded a medal, to be called "Medal of Maximilian," for eminent works of science or literature. The medals will be in gold, and bear the effigy of the King. A pecuniary addition of from 200 to 400 ducats will be attached to each. Four of them will be distributed each year for the first five years from the 28th Nov. next, the anniversary of the King's birthday. His Majesty has also founded prizes of 600 ducats for works on the history of the House of Wittelsbach, the history of Bavaria in general, or particular points of that history; another prize of 200 ducats for a tragedy, and 100 for a comedy. The historical works must be printed by the 1st of August, 1860; and the tragedy and comedy completed by the 1st of August, 1861.—*Littera from Munich.*

**Memorabilia,
LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND
ARTISTIC.**

A little chink may let in much light.—OLD PROVERB.

EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF THE FIRST EARL OF EGMONT.

The diary whence the following extracts are taken is among the Add. MSS. in the Library of the British Museum, and is numbered 17,720. It extends only from the 1st of Jan., 1728-29 to 6th of Feb., 1728-29. A note attached to the MS. with the signature of Sir Frederic Madden, informs us who this first Earl of Egmont was:—“Sir John Perceval, created Baron Perceval of Burton, 21st April, 1715; Viscount Perceval, of (Kanturk!) 1722; and, in 1733, first Earl of Egmont. He married Catherine, daughter of Sir Philip Parker Morley, Bart. He died 1st of May, 1748.”

Jan. 2nd, 1728-29.—Sr James Taubin and Counsellr. Foster came to dine with me. Before and at dinner ye Company discours'd of ye Ostend Company. Sr James Taubin, who had been for sev'l years Captn. of a ship in ye East India Company's service, said that if it had not been for ye avarice of some particular assistants for ye India Company, there had been none set up at Ostend, that at ye time that design was forming ye Emperor found himself much press'd by the interest of 8 p. cent due for ye money lent on ye Silecta loan, and he then offred if ye creditors would take 6 p. cent instead of 8, he would not erect that Company. Sr. Gilbert Heathcote and the rest who had advanced that money, could not digest taking 6 p. cent after tasting the sweets of 8, and refused to abate, which determined ye Emperor to go on with that design, which ever since gave us so much trouble, and still continues to do, and is like to bring all Europe into a war. For the Emperor is still brought into a pacific temper, yet Spain laid hold of ye opportunity of our variance to strike in with him, and reassume their claim on Gibraltar, and is now arming as if they intend for war as soon as their galleons with their riches in Europe and enable them.

At the time we were at the highest pitch of variance with the Emperor, which was in the reign of his late Majesty, his Majy signified in his speech to the Parliament that in the Treaty between ye Emp'r and King of Spain there was a secret article that the Emperor should concur to seat the Pretender here. The Empr when he heard it openly deny'd it, and sent a sharp remonstrance to Count . . . his Ambassador at our Court, with order to deliver it with his own hands to the King, but at the same time caused it to be printed, and given to the leading men of both houses of Parliament and of the City, as distrusting that the King would not acquaint his people with the contents, which in substance was that it wa' false that he ever agreed to any such article. The Ambassador judging that if he acquainted the Ministry, Ld Townsendl, &c., with his orders, that they would not permit him to have an audience, put on a gay countenance, and told them he had something to deliver to the King that was for the service of our nation. This gained him an audience; but when the King read ye memoriall it put him into such a passion that he laid his hand on his sword; but reason came instantly to his aid, and he only dismissed ye Ambassador with some sharp expressions. It was taken very ill that the Emperor should in this manner appeal as it were to the people against their King. But in some time the sharpness on both sides abated, and matters were so far reconciled, that last May a Treaty was concluded by which our East India Company were at liberty to take any Ostend ships they should find going to the Indies or China. In pursuance of which ye Company have added 40 men to each ship of their own and given proper directions.

We talk'd of ye King of Prussia's unsteady behaviour, and of his barbarously caning an officer at the head of his regiment. The story is well known. The officer, losing all command of himself at the disgrace, drew his pistol, and, pointing it at the King's breast, cry'd, “A vous, mais vous des mon Roy!” then, firing his pistol in the air, he immediately took yo other and shot himself dead on ye spot. Mr. Foster said an English Coll' express his resentment on a like occasion much better than by killing himself. King William, in one of his passages to Holland, was attended on by this Coll', and, being out of humour, kick'd yo Colonels shins. The Coll' immediately fell a-kicking a seaman that was near. The King ask'd him what he meant by it. “Sir (replied he), I kick where I dare do it;” which was telling ye King that he would not have kick'd as good a man as himself. But every man knows the superlative courage of that great Prince, and that the officer only said this to procure such satisfaction for ye affront as he was capable of giving himself.

Saturday. * * * * *
The British Journal of this day or Consor, pretended to be writ by one Roger Manley, Esq., but published by a writer for Sir Robt. Walpole, and supposed to be dictated by him on extraordinary occasions, contains a clear, succinct account of ye grounds of the present disagreement among ye Princes of Europe, and deserves to be kept and read more than once.

Tuesday, 7 Jan.—To-day I went to Court; the Prince ask'd after my late illness, what place I served for, and after my brother Parker. Brother Percival and Dering dined with us and Dr. Courage. In ye evening young Botman, Mrs. Schutz, and Mrs. Dunellan and Clay too came to see us. All agreed never to have felt so very cold a day, so great that I acquainted the Prince ye small birds dropt down dead in our gardens at Charlton, which is true. At Court I saw Brigadier Sr Hiphite, that worthy old acquaintance of mine since my travells at Turin. He told me I was yo only one would take notice of him here of all yo English that past thro Turin while he was there: which I was sorry to hear, for he was extremely servile and obliging to all, and deserved a better return, having been Commandant of ye Citadel of Turin when besieged by ye French ye year before my arrival, and then behaved himself so as to be a favourite of ye Duke, tho a Protestant.

Thursday, 9th. * * * * *
The Prince was last night to see a new play of Cibber, which being damn'd ye first night, he prevay'd that ye Prince should come to it, in hopes his presence would save it: but ye audience, without any regard to who was there, made such a scandalous noise, hissing, talking, and cat-calling, that for two acts not a word could be heard. The Prince went unwillingly, and came away very much dissatisfied.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

A BOOK BARGAIN.—At a recent sale of the curious collection formed by the late Mr. Lynch Cotton was a small work, not-as some would suppose, from its title, a treatise on practical angling like the far-famed “Universal Angler” of Izaak Walton, but a moralization on angling—“fishing spiritualised,” as one might say. It is called “A Boke of Angling or Fishing, wherein is showed, by conference with Scriptures the agreement between the Fishermen, Fishes, Fishing of both natures, Temporal and Spiritual. By Samuel Gardiner, Doctor of Divinitie. Printed for Thomas Purfoot, 1606, 18mo.” This morsel, which is undoubtedly rare—indeed, according to the authority of the late Rev. Ordinary of Newgate, unique— fetched the incredible price of £40! At the same sale, among a host of letters, petitions, portraits, &c., of felons, convicts, and notorious criminals, was another lot of a very different character, but so exquisitely dainty, that we cannot resist recording it *verbatim*:—“113, Newgate: Autograph Letter of Lord Sidmouth, Receipt of Cheshire the Hangman—cuttings, &c.; also, TWO HANGMANS' ROPES, used at the executions of John Pegsworth, 1827, and James Pratt, 1835.” It is to the credit of the booksellers that this precious gallumfray, despite the attractive capitals and insinuating italics, sold only for one shilling; and that the buyer, amidst the applause of those assembled, hung the *useful* HANGMAN'S ROPES behind the fire. BILLIONIANA.

PAPAL BULL AGAINST WIGS.—It is not generally known that the thunder of the Vatican has been directed against even so small a matter as the wearing of wigs by ecclesiastics. On the 20th December, 1724, Benedict XIII. published a bull of which the following is an extract:—“Statuit et mandat, ne ullus sacerdos, aut sacris initiatus, aut etiam clericus primo tonsure, comam, que fronte auresque tegat, nutriat, multo minus percutere utatur, sub pena, toties quoties transgreduntur, decem scutorum, illico operibus et locis suis applicandorum neonon incarcerationis totidem diuerum.” An incarceration of ten days for simply putting on a jasey! O Ross! O Truefit!—H. A. K.

TORYLAND.—I beg to hand you the following copy of an advertisement in the *Daily Postboy* of 7th Feb., 1728, which may perhaps prove interesting to some of your readers. Could you inform me where I could obtain a copy of the work advertised?—“This day is published, a new and exact map of Toryland, with the Dangerous Rocks and Shoals of all the Jacobite Islands lying in the same Parallel with the Red Sea, whose Latitude is 188°, and Longitude 1714. Dedicated with great Disrespect and Contempt to that Knight of the warming-pan, King of No Land, the Pretender, and all his Brainless Adherents. Price Sixpence. Sold by T. Warner, at the Black Boy, Paternoster-row.—A MACGILLIVRAY.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE.—This day has always been subject to the extremes of observation or neglect. We find it most religiously observed, and no business to be done upon it. On the contrary, we also find markets held (with, indeed, a limitation, except for provisions), and trading and working upon this day. Battles, &c., were often suspended because it was Sunday. Dressing well on this day is ancient. Bear and bull baiting, and all kinds of

* The awkward structure of this sentence suggests an amusing idea of the hapless M. Hatch.

games, were not unusual after church. In the seventeenth century the people in almost every house passed the Sunday evening in singing psalms and reading the “Book of Martyrs.”—FOSROKE.

THE RISE OF BIRMINGHAM.—A notion prevails among the inhabitants of the celebrated hardware village that the greatness of this place has been due to the operation of a law which formerly prohibited Dissenters from engaging in business (or rendered it extremely difficult for them) at a less distance than seven miles from a corporate town. It is said that this led so many Unitarians, Presbyterians, and other Nonconformists to settle on the borders of Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Staffordshire, in the parishes of Birmingham and Aston. These places are at the distance mentioned from a corporate town, and are within about five miles from the iron country—a distance which could not be reduced without violating the proscribed relation to orthodox Mayors and Aldermen. We merely state this as an existing theory in the district, and should be glad to hear the opinion of more competent authority on the subject. The numerous Dissenters in Birmingham, and the otherwise unaccountable superiority which it has attained over Wolverhampton, Wednesbury, &c., certainly give some support to the conjecture.

QUERIES.

“**ORIGINES GUELFILE**” OF SCHEIDIUS.—In the “*Origines Guelfile*,” by Scheidius, there is mention of the following individuals:—

Welfus Dux *Scyrorum, Illeutorum, Ilvgorum, et Tuccilingorum* 488
Oldogarn. Protectus *Prusii* 546
Weltus Dux et Referendarius *Dagoberti Regis*. 613
Alachus Dux *Tridentinus*
Welfus Comes *Boivariorum*
Rottandus Comes *Littoris Britannici* ab. 700
Bruno Abb. *Cdensis*
Landalous Episcop. *Daruensis*
Episcopi &c. *Augustanus Einsidensis Herliopolensis*
Ebraspurgensis Leodiensis Constantiensis Stadensis
Princeps *Angariae*

If any reader can give an explanation of, and the English equivalents for, the preceding words he will oblige—E. H. Y.

JACK O' BOTH SIDES.—Who or what was this? In the Chamberlain's accounts, in the records of the city of Worcester, about the year 1653, there is this entry:—

They (the Chamberlains) pray to be allowed that was paid for making clothes for Jack on Both Sides, viz:—

Paid for cloth	£01 08 00
Paid for linings	00 02 03
For buttons, and hucks and eyes	00 01 00
For making the clothes	00 03 00

With reference to this, Mr. Noake, in his “*Worcester in the Olden Time*,” says: “Jack on Both Sides must have been, I think, an effigy or figure, dressed up for some one of the many occasions for public processioning which obtained in former times.” This is what Mr. Noake thinks; but that he thinks correctly about it is, to me, a very great question. In hopes, I suppose, to strengthen his case, he thus proceeds:—“The only allusion I can find with regard to it is in a tract by Taylor, the Water Poet, entitled, ‘Jack-a-Lent, his beginning and entertainment, with the mad pranks of his gentleman-usher, Shrove Tuesday, that goes before him, and his footman Hunger attending.’ It is as follows:—

Of Jack-an-apes I list not to edite;
Nor of Jack Daw my goose's quill shall write:
Of Jack of Newbury I will not repeate;
Nor Jack of Both Sides, nor of Skipjacks neate;
But of the Jack of Jacks, great Jack-a-Lent:
To write his worthy act's is my intent.”

Now, though in the above extract Taylor certainly mentions Jack o' Both Sides, yet he does nothing more, and gives no clue as to who or what he was. That it was an effigy, and used on public festive occasions, is rendered less likely by what Mr. Noakes himself thus adds in conclusion:—“The singularity of the item consists in the fact of its having been made at a period when all games, plays, and pageants were prohibited.” As the matter then appears to me to be in considerable doubt, I shall be glad if any of your readers can say who or what Jack o' Both Sides was, and what his or its functions?

WIFE-SELLING.—I heartily thank Mr. Hobbs for his courteous reply on the above topic, but would still feel obliged to him, or any other of your correspondents who would briefly state the origin of that practice so painfully peculiar to England, if it be traceable to any remote period of English consuetudinary law, real or supposed; if it has any legal effect *per se* in dissolving the nuptial tie; and lastly, if such a transaction be not some way punishable, as an offence *contra bonos mores*. If not, I shall regret it, as a stain to English jurisprudence, and one, too, which I have often found tending to deprecate the British character abroad.—GEO. BAILLIE.

FRATERNITY OF ST. NICHOLAS.—Can any of your correspondents give me any information concerning the “Fraternity of St. Nicholas,” in London? I have just met with a part of a list of its members at the end of a fragment of an English missal. It contained among its members persons of all classes and both sexes—clerici, laici, uxores, almesmen, maydes. There is one Bishop of Durham and one Baron of the “Cheeker.”—I. C. L.

ANOTHER FEMALE FRIEND OF POPE'S.—Much has been said lately about the correspondence and friends of Pope. The following unpublished note (one of the Homer MSS. in the British Museum) refers to a lady hitherto unmentioned by any of Pope's biographers:—“4th Sept., 1724. Sir,—According to my promise, this is to acquaint you that last night Mrs. Wenshorne came to town, and having been to wait on her to-day she tells me that, having but a week to stay, and many things to do, would be glad you would send her word what day you intend her the favour of a visit, that you may be sure of finding her at home. I am, Sir, your most humble servant, J. KNIGHT.”—Now, who was Mrs. Wenshorne?—T.

BAKING A MAN IN AN OVEN.—Is it true that, in the reign of Queen Anne, the Rector of Broughton Hackett was tried, convicted, and executed, for *baking his shepherd's boy in an oven!*? If so, where can I find an account of the transaction and the trial? Did he bake the boy *alive*? Broughton Hackett is in Worcestershire.—WINDSOR.

(To be continued.)

ANSWER.

ANTIQUITY OF TOOTHPICKS.—Toothpicks were in common use in the time of the Caesars. Martial tells you that those made of a chip of mastic wood—Lentiscus—are the best; but, if you run short of such timber, a quill will serve your purpose.—See Lib. xiv., Eger. 22.

DENTIS LAMM. *Lentiscum meius sed si tibi frondea Cuspis Defucit, dentes penas levare potest*

In another epigram he ridicules an old fool who was in the habit of digging away at his gums with his polished Lentisks, though he had not a tooth left in his head.—Lib. vi., Epi. 74.

AD ESCULANUM.
Metio recumbit inuus illo qui lecto,
Clyvam tristem semibactus ungues,

Fudit que tonsis ora laxa lentiscis;

Mentiur, Es male:—noa habet dentes.

MELETES.

BIRTHPLACE OF OLIVER GOLDSMITH.—A correspondent in our last Paper inquires where Oliver Goldsmith was born. It was at Pallans, parish of Ferney, county of Longford, 10th November, 1728. The day of the month is from the family bible, submitted to Mr. Prior by Dr. Neigan, of Athlone, during the former gentleman's tour of research for materials for the life of the poet. The figures of the year are worn away, as with those of two others of the children; but, by the recollection of his sister, confirmed by himself, it was in 1728. Of this there is no reasonable doubt, from the minuteness of Prior's search, who first made the details accurately known to us, and has given a curious account of his exploration of the vicinity. See his “*Life of Goldsmith*,” pp. 10, 14, 15.—C. B.

OLD RHYME.—This old rhyme Josephine mentions runs thus:—

Monday for health,

Tuesday for wealth,

Wednesday the best day of all;

Thursday for losses,

Friday for crosses,

Saturday no luck at all.

J. C. NORRIS.

I remember, as children in the nursery, we used to repeat the following old rhyme as applied to cutting our finger nails:—

Cut them on Monday,

You cut them for health;

Cut them on Tuesday,

You cut them for wealth

Cut them on Wednesday,

You cut them for losses;

Cut them on Thursday,

You cut them for crosses

Cut them on Friday,

You cut them for sorrow;

Cut them on Saturday,

You'll see your beau on the morrow.

RECEIVED.—Alpha, C. A. G., Horsehair, Fred. T., Derby; A. M. S., Octavius, F. R. Ware; Hercules, S. G., Jones, Miranda, R. B., Conservative Club; A. Maxman, Fergus Egidius, Inducta, Salopensis Alumnus, Thomas Butts, Josephus D'Argiles, Surriensis, G. Chowen, S. C. B., Minnie, Besie, E. H. Q., Glasgow, Paul de Cock, G. H., A. P. Falconer, Geneza, Deborah, Marcus, R. P. W., Clavis, I. D. L. Balliol, Oxford; D. C. L., Pembroke College, Cambridge; Philomath. B., A. W. F. N., Ellen, Hermione, G. P. ERATIST.—In *Fides*' note regarding the legend on the Godfrey Medals, which appeared in our Number for March 29th, for *Tucor read Tucor*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. F., Clitheroe.—Your eccentric Stratagem in six moves is not adapted to our columns. Few amateurs have any taste for what are called suicidal Problems.

ΦΙΛΟΤΕΟΣ, Yram-loein, Walter E. Passer, and others.—In Problem No. 632, White cannot mate by playing P' to Q B 4th, as you suggest, since Black, it is clear, would take the Pawn in passing with his Q's Pawn.

PIRANS.—The best defence to the “Fianchetto” opening, as the Italians term it, is to play up the King's, Queen's, Bishop's, and Queen's Bishop's Pawns, and thus gain command of the centre





"THE MID-DAY MEAL."—PAINTED BY H. B. WILLIS.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

FINE ART EXHIBITIONS.

We have chosen our Exhibition Illustrations for this week from Suffolk-street and the Portland Gallery.

"The Mid-day Meal" of Mr. Brittan Willis, at the Portland Gallery, is a picture that will make Mr. Sydney Cooper look about him. The scene is an open field on the coast of Sussex, the time (of course) mid-day, the weather fine and healthy, the personages ploughboys, and the cattle such as Sussex mixed with Suffolk breed; the horses are lifelike, and the whole effect is very pleasing.

Mr. S. Read, whose poetic picture of a Country Churchyard we engrave this week, as one of the best examples of English art to be seen in the recently-opened Exhibition in Suffolk-street, has derived his inspiration from "Gray's Elegy":—

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness, and to me.

Now fades the glimmering landscape on the sight,
And all the air a solemn stillness holds,
Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight,
And drowsy tinklings lull the distant folds.

* * * * *
Beneath those rugged elms, that yew-tree's shade,
Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap,

Each in this narrow cell for ever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,
The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

* * * * *
Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,
Their homely joys and destiny obscure;
Nor Grandeur hear with a disdainful smile
The short and simple annals of the poor.

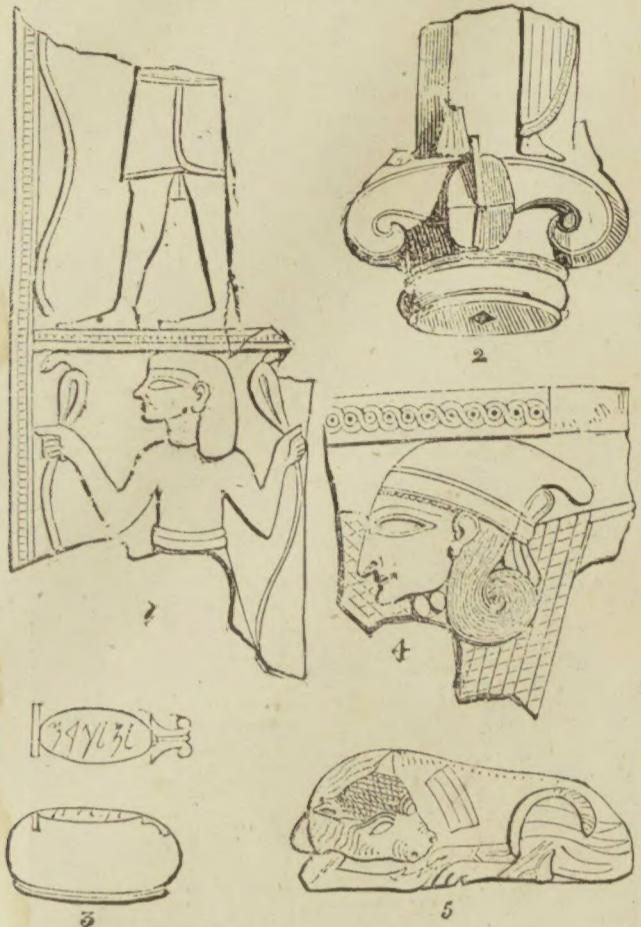


"A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD."—PAINTED BY SAMUEL READ.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

The following are the lines which the Artist has specially illustrated:—
Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

IVORY CARVINGS FROM NINEVEH.

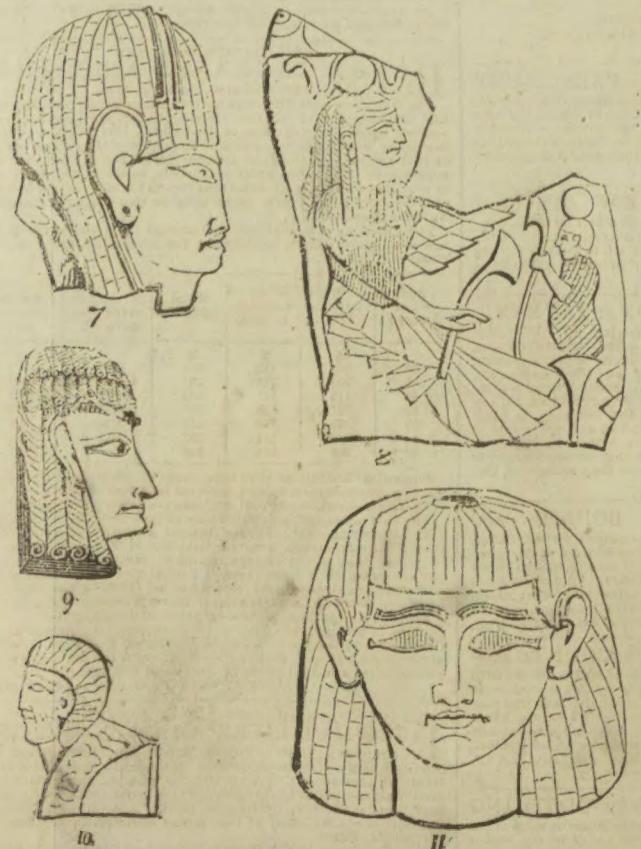
In addition to the matchless sculptures found in the Palace of Assurbanipal by Mr. Loftus, the conductor of the last Assyrian expedition, the public is further indebted to that worthy successor of Mr. Layard for a not less important discovery made in the South-East Palace at Nimroud. We allude to a large collection of ivories, specimens of which we have this week engraved. Though, at first sight, less attractive than the bas-reliefs, they are equally valuable in restoring scattered links to the chain



of Assyrian history, and as records of ancient art-progress; for, by the evident Egyptian characteristics, interwoven with Assyrian emblems, they throw some light on the communications between the two empires; and the fact of Phoenician writing alone being found upon them prompts the suggestion that they were partly the work of the latter people. The only perfect inscription found is that shown in Fig. 3. The ornaments are more varied in these fragments than on the marble sculptures, and they



bear also some novel emblems and peculiarities. The Assyrian Sacred Tree, the Bull (Fig. 5) and the Lion Combats, are here associated with the Egyptian serpents (Figs. 1 and 8), winged globes and figures wearing Egyptian head-dresses. Some of the small heads are completely Egyptian. A specimen is given in Fig. 11, where the eyebrows and eyes have been filled in with a different material. The variety of head-dress shown in these



fragments is also peculiar to them (Figs. 4, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14) and bears no similitude to those of the marble figures. One head (Fig. 7), appears to represent a negro. Another peculiarity of this collection is the large number of nude female figures which it contains. They are in some

cases single, in others back to back, in groups of two and four, supporting on their heads a mass of floral decoration, and standing on ornamental pedestals. Fig. 2 represents a regular Ionic capital supporting a fractured group of them.

These figures differ much in detail: several of them show the hands supporting the breasts, as in the clay figures found abundantly in Southern Babylonia, but generally the arms hang idly by their sides. Many of the heads bear the mural crown of the Assyrian Venus, and others a carved fillet (Figs. 12 and 14), with fragments remaining of the gold and enamel which once enriched it. Precious gems may once have filled the now vacant holes, and have induced the destruction of the work these several fragments once adorned. There is, also, besides the objects we have enumerated, a number of dagger handles, carved knobs (Fig. 8), portions of bowls and boxes, and sphinxes (Fig. 10)—in all, sufficient perhaps to fill a space two feet cube. We have called them "ivories," but it is an open question whether all the pieces are of that material. They vary in tint from white to jet black, and when broken the inside is generally slate-colour. The material is laminated, and, carved and polished, has all the appearance of ivory. Some fragments look like wood, others bone, and a few resemble more the kind of clay of which the Turkish chibouque bowls are made. It has been suggested that the action of fire and their long deposit amidst the emouldered ruins may account for the varied colour, but that, we apprehend, would only affect the surface. We still think, therefore, that on minuter examination they will be found of different materials.



It is equally if not more difficult to determine accurately the object they originally formed. It may have been some article of furniture; and by turning to a former engraving (Nov. 3, 1855), where the King and Queen are represented, it will be perceived that the sofa, chair, and table there delineated are highly enriched, and might have borne ornaments as elaborate as these fragments. The number of nude figures and images of the Assyrian Venus found amongst them suggests the idea that they formed a shrine to that deity. Of one thing we are certain, they were made to fit together, because nearly all the fragments—for instance, Fig. 11—have holes bored in them for pegs, others have grooves on the undersides, and slides were found which fitted them perfectly. They have been so constructed either to facilitate their transport from one palace to another, or to give a little play to the junctions when the framework which they covered was subjected to the shrinkage inevitable in so hot and dry a climate. It may assist those who would study the subject to state that they were all found in one—the innermost room of the Palace, precisely resembling that in, we believe, the South-West Palace at Nimroud, where Mr. Layard previously discovered a somewhat similar collection. The inquiry they open is the relation between the people of Assyria and those of Phoenicia and Egypt, and we must remember that there are unmistakable traces of Egyptian art in the ruins of Persepolis, still farther eastward; and also the mode of decoration employed on the objects which furnished those Assyrian palaces, the walls of which were lined by the marble bas-reliefs now familiar to most of us.

RURAL RIDES.

SALE OF SIR CHARLES KNIGHTLEY'S HERD OF SHORTHORNS.

The sale of Sir Charles Knightley's herd of Shorthorns took place at his seat, Fawsley Park, on the 3rd instant, and excited more interest than any event of the same character since that of Earl Dicke. The herd was bred from some of the best blood in England. It had recently been crossed with a judicious purchase, the "Duke of Cambridge bull," from Mr. Tanqueray's sale; and the Baronet himself, from his position among the landed aristocracy and peculiar line of opinions, gave just that sort of piety to the transaction that common people try to obtain from ingenious advertisements. The result was an extraordinary attendance, in spite of a soaking day, and the absence of all information as to the time the auction was to commence, or the railway trains by which Weedon could be reached. It is believed that nearly 3000 persons were present at the sale, at which seventy-eight lots realised 5962 guineas, or an average of 76 guineas per head. The top price was reached by the Duke of Cambridge—3½ years old—purchased by the Rev. F. Cator, at 330 guineas. This bull cost Sir Charles, at Mr. Tanqueray's sale, £280 guineas. On that occasion, however, 300 guineas were bid for him just after the hammer fell. Bosquet, under two years old, was bought by Mr. Shepherd for 200 guineas. The dearest lot, perhaps, was a calf by the Duke, six weeks old, and decidedly delicate, which fetched 44 guineas. The prices, although good, were not equal to those obtained at Earl Dicke's, where the Duke, the sire of the Duke of Cambridge, was knocked down to an American company at 1000 guineas.

Fawsley Park lies about four miles from Weedon station. Beside the neighbours who flocked there—on wheels, on horseback, and on foot—the rail brought full trains from every point of the compass to which the many branches of the London and North-Western Railway extend. But scores were disappointed, in consequence of the advertisement naming neither the time at which the sale would take place, nor the trains by which Weedon could be reached; indeed, in common with several others, we were indebted to the special attention of the railway officials for the means of getting on from Blisworth to Weedon.

It is curious enough that Sir Charles Knightley, who has never been a friend to the extension of even common roads towards his estate, and has always been one of the sturdiest opponents of railroads, should, at the close of his agricultural career, be so much indebted for a triumphant winding-up of his accounts to the detested locomotives. The attendance quite outran the calculations of the innkeepers in the way of conveyances: vans, omnibus, flies, dog-carts, and yellow postchaises of ancient date were called into requisition; but many were obliged to trudge through mud as sticky as mortar, under a pelting shower. According to the custom of such sales, a large pavilion had been prepared, and stored with a cold luncheon; but the army of vianders quite defeated the liberal calculations of the commissariat, and by one o'clock the tables which a few hours previously had groaned under a bountiful supply of solid boiled and roast, were reduced to bare bones and crumbs—crusts there were none. But this was an inevitable misfortune which no one could have foreseen. The sale took place in a yard surrounded by wagons full of the anxious or the curious, topped with a sea of umbrellas; but there had been so little forethought in the choice of the place and arrangement of the seats that it was almost impossible for those who arrived after the first rush to either see the cattle or hear the auctioneer. One eminent Lincolnshire breeder and a purchaser to the extent of three hundred guineas was indebted to a seat on a ladder planted against an outhouse for the chance of securing the lots on which he had set his mind.

Outside the favoured circle of the wagon-seated, a busy crowd, umbrellaed, galoshed, and gaitered, wandered and held consultations in the mud, and from time to time sought shelter in the sheds, where, ticketed on each rump, deep in clean straw, stood the mild, plump, silkskin stock, the sires and dames of future horned nobility, chewing the cud with the placid self-possession of pure aristocracy. The peer and the grazier equalised by enthusiasm in common pursuit exchanged opinions.

Breeders of all ranks and many countries, English, Scotch, Irish, French, American, and Australian, were commingled. Among the busiest was the Marquis of Tweeddale, Governor of Madras, inventor of one of the earliest tile-making machines, an experiment in steam cultivation, and lately before the agricultural world as the practiser of the extraordinary deep cultivation known as the Yester system. The Marquis, in his earlier foxhunting days, in Lincolnshire, often galloped his hounds to a cattle fair, before meeting the hounds at Coverdale, and the tastes of his youth appear not to have forsaken him. Lord Hill was there too, whose name so often appears at the Christmas Fat Shows as the successful exhibitor of the Herefords; and Lord Southampton, one of the many instances of masters of foxhounds who are also good judges of the points of well-bred stock. From Cam-

bridgeshire came Jonas Webb, of Southdown celebrity: if some one could put the constitution into the shorthorn that he has impressed on the Southdowns, it would be a wonderful improvement. From Notts came Mr. Sanday, so often a shorthorn prizeman from Lincolnshire, a member of the famous Wold farmers; and William Torr, of Aylsby, from Suffolk, whose pure Leicester sheep and shorthorns are equally well known; Barthrop, renowned for cart-horses, and a crowd of other names famous in the records of British stock-breeding and agriculture. Monsieur de Rion de Frebonnais, one of the proprietors and editors of the *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique*, who was on a visit to Fawsley Park, worthily represented French breeders; and there were many other foreign celebrities lost in the damp crowd. Indeed had the day been fine this would have been one of the most numerous and interesting assemblies of first-class agriculturists ever gathered together. Sir Charles Knightley defied the weather, and looked the character of the worthy Baronet to perfection; upright and active in spite of his three score and fifteen years, slight in figure, hawk-nosed, with the healthy, fresh complexion and cheery expression to be expected from a life spent in out-door sports and pursuits, and as often as possible in the saddle; it was very pleasant to hear him warmly expatiating to his friends on the special merits of each cow or calf, bull or heifer, of his own breeding for half-a-dozen bovine generations. It is curious to note that Sir Charles Knightley, who has stoutly opposed every kind of change—social, mechanical, and political—who stuck to his road hack long after his neighbours had taken to post-horses or the mail coach, and posted by road when his neighbours were whirling along by rail—who supported the Old Smithfield cattle nuisance against the Islington model market; and who, among a series of other perfectly consistent exhibitions of prejudice, last distinguished himself at a Northampton agricultural meeting, by expressing his contempt for guano and chemical manures, should have taken a first-class place as an agricultural reformer and supporter of the greatest radical of the bovine race the shorthorn. When Sir Charles Knightley was born (in 1781), we believe we are quite safe in saying that the shorthorn was unknown as a distinct breed in the Northamptonshire pastures, and Northampton was then further from York than it is now from Marseilles. The thick-skinned, slow-fattening, long-horned Cravens were the favoured county breed, and the weight of the hide was always taken into consideration in valuing a beast—the thicker the better. In 1810 the first public sale of shorthorns took place, when the herd bred by the founder of the race, Charles Collings, was sold after his death at prices equal to anything that have since been attained. For instance, the celebrated bull Comet brought 1000 guineas; the cow Countess, nine years old, 400 guineas; and a calf Lucilla (by Comet), under a year, 106 guineas—prices which have scarcely been equalled since until the sale of Earl Dicke's stock.

We should be curious to learn at what date Sir Charles Knightley overcame his prejudices against everything foreign, and began his useful labours in substituting the fast-fattening shorthorn for the original Northamptonshire breeds of his youth. At any rate, by making an exception to his anti-reforming tendencies in the matter of stock, he has done a service which could scarcely have been rendered by any one of less influence and fortune. After a long course of years, during which he has possessed himself of strains of very pure blood, he has by this last sale dispersed the best animals among a class of practical men who are likely to make them generally useful.

All the stock sold, except three or four, had been bred by the Baronet, and bred, apparently, so finely, that beef had almost superseded milk. Harmonious in symmetry and mellow in touch, cows and heifers alike were for the most part singularly deficient in that shape of udder that promises well for the dairy. It seemed as if a wet-nurse, in the shape of a coarser-bred cow, would be required to bring up the calves of several of the high-bred, nobly-descended heifers. But the Duke of Cambridge, who comes of a more milking stock, was, according to the gossip of the sale, purchased specially to supply this deficiency.

At one period, about a quarter of a century after the Charles Collings sale, a reaction was brought about by the want of milk in certain strains of shorthorns, and prices were very much depressed. The late Earl Spencer's stock, towards the time they were dispersed, began to show signs of want of constitution. This deficiency has, no doubt, been increased by the high style of feeding which is deemed essential to produce the fashionable cube of flesh and fat without a point or wrinkle. We heard at Fawsley that the consumption of oilcake (a foreign importation, by-the-by) for the shorthorn stock was considerably over a ton a week. It is a pity that some one of influence has not the courage to put a stop to the stuffing process, which no breeder for profit practices until the time comes "for making stock up for sale."

The herd at Fawsley were, however, not nearly so fat as some we have seen at the agricultural shows. As for the farm buildings, nothing could be more primitive: no money had been wasted on ornament. They excited intense amusement among the Norfolk, Lincoln, and Bedfordshire men, accustomed to the neatness, solidity, and convenience of the farm-buildings erected by their great and improving landlords.

It is very fortunate that in this country the breeding of pure stock is a favourite and fashionable pursuit among our landed aristocracy; for there can be little doubt that, although one of the most fascinating, it is one of the least profitable of rural occupations; and that those who breed specially for profit are able to obtain picked animals of exactly the quality they require for a special cross at the sale of herds like Sir Charles Knightley's at infinitely less cost than if they had to breed them.

According to all appearances, for many years to come we may expect considerable purchases of our purest stock from the continent of Europe, from Canada, Australia, and the United States: America and Australia for their own meat markets; France and Germany, to supply our markets as well as their own. The stockowners of America and Australia form companies or partnerships to import the best animals; the chief foreign purchasers are the Government agents; but, although a temporary effect may be thus produced, so far all foreign breeding establishments have been found wanting in that stability of purpose and individual energy which is alone to be found among our hereditary landed aristocracy and the great tenants who thrive under them. The "States-man" who has created a first-class breeding farm has no means of perpetuating its existence—it often dies with him. There is as yet no class in the United States exclusively devoted to the improvement of the land and the cultivation of the pure breeds, on which quality of meat so intimately depends.

The more fortunate unite the activity of commerce with the solidity of hereditary agriculture, and while the reforming mercantile spirit improves our laws and extends our railroads, the conservative agricultural spirit breeds beef at a cost of 2s. 6d. an oz. that we may eat it at 7d. a lb.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DECLINED.—Rassoa; Seine et Oise; J. T. Oscott; W. W. Stafford; Laureatta. X. Q. S.—We have not space.
A SUBSCRIBER writes:—"In the report of Mr. G. F. Ansell's Lecture on Alumina (in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of March 29, page 323), it is stated that the lecturer showed that the alkali metals seized oxygen 'with avidity from water and carbonic acid, setting free the hydrogen and carbon from each compound.' Query—is the latter statement correct? Has Mr. Ansell succeeded in decomposing carbonic acid? Professor Gregory, in a recent work, has stated that the most powerful chemical agencies have hitherto failed to decompose this gas, and that its decomposition has as yet been effected only by living plants under the influence of solar light.—E. G." The reply is as follows:—"If Professor Gregory has stated that carbonic acid gas cannot be decomposed, except by the agency of a living plant under the influence of solar light, he has evidently misled his readers, as may be proved by the following experiment. Fill a vessel with dry carbonic acid gas, and pass into it some boiling potassium in a metallic deflagrating spoon: in an instant the potassium will take fire, burning most brilliantly. Allow the combustion to be complete, and the spoon to cool, then dip it into distilled water, and the charcoal will be deposited, and, by washing it carefully, it will remain perfectly pure; then dry it and ignite it in pure oxygen, and from it reproduce the carbonic acid which was decomposed. Sodium answers equally well with potassium. This is the most simple method of performing the experiment; but there are many other means, which I shall be most happy to show the inquirer, if he will call upon me at the Panopticon any day or hour that will suit his convenience, although I do not for a moment wish to be viewed otherwise than as repeating an experiment long known to chemists.—G. F. ANSELL."
A READER.—The average price of the Three per Cent Consols in March, 1836, was 91½; of the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent, 100.
J. F. W.—The sketch is of a coin of Charles XII of Sweden, and the impression in wax is from one of a series of engraved jettons of the Kings of England.

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"NOON-DAY REST."—PAINTED BY CUYP.—(SEE PAGE 386.)

"THE PARISH BEADLE," BY SIR DAVID WILKIE.

THIS fine picture—an excellent example of Wilkie's second style—was painted by Wilkie in the year 1823 for the late Lord Colborne, by whom it was bequeathed to the National Gallery. It is on panel, and measures two feet high by three feet wide. The price paid to the painter was three hundred and fifty guineas. Mr. Gambart or Mr. Agnew would to-morrow give (on speculation) twelve hundred guineas for it.

This bequest of Lord Colborne is an accession of moment to the National Gallery. Before this was obtained the Gallery had no good specimen of this great master in his second style. Wilkie had three styles. Of the first, "The Blind Fiddler," in the National Gallery, and

"The Chelsea Pensioner," at Apsley House, are the most characteristic and valuable examples. Of his second style, "The Highland Whisky-Still," in the possession of the representatives of the late Sir Willoughby Gordon, "The Rabbit on the Wall," in Mr. Dobree's collection, and the picture we engrave, are excellent specimens. Of his third and last style, the "Columbus" and the "John Knox Preaching" are justly considered the best examples. Wilkie's third style is fairly represented by a picture in the Vernon Collection.

To tell the story of "The Parish Beadle" would be to insult the understanding of the commonest person. Two stories, however, may be told in connection with it.

When Fuseli saw "The Parish Beadle" at the Royal Academy Exhibition, he exclaimed: "Vell, vat dis? Is dis de new vay de

Gueriens style?" and grinned horribly. The picture is rather black in colour.

The other story relates to the progress of the picture. Wilkie, it is well known, was unwilling to use his pencil on a Sunday—obeying the last injunction of Dr. Johnson to Sir Joshua Reynolds. On a part of this picture, however, he did work on a Sunday, and that portion was the monkey. His excuse was characteristic, and even jocular. He borrowed the monkey (it is a very fine one) from the museum at Exeter Change. "You see," he observed, "this gentleman is a public character, and can only be spared from his public duties on a Sunday."

Let us add that there is a very fine line engraving from "The Parish Beadle" by Abraham Raimbach, the admirable engraver of "The Rent Day" and other important works of Sir David Wilkie.



"THE PARISH BEADLE."—PAINTED BY SIR DAVID WILKIE, R.A.—FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY.